

EXHIBIT 4, PART 1



US006319125B1

(12) United States Patent
Acres(10) Patent No.: US 6,319,125 B1
(45) Date of Patent: *Nov. 20, 2001

(54) METHOD APPARATUS FOR PROMOTING PLAY ON A NETWORK OF GAMING DEVICES

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(73) Assignee: Acres Gaming Incorporated, Las Vegas, NV (US)

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(*) Notice: This patent issued on a continued prosecution application filed under 37 CFR 1.53(d), and is subject to the twenty year patent term provisions of 35 U.S.C. 154(a)(2).

Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days

(21) Appl. No : 08/843,411

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(22) Filed: Apr. 15, 1997

Report & Recommendation (Findings of Fact & Conclusions of Law Re. Claim Construction), May 2000

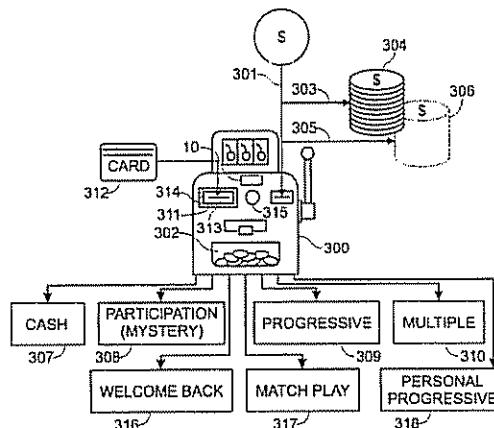
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(74) Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Marger Johnson & McCollom, PC

(57) ABSTRACT

A method and apparatus for controlling a bonusing promotion system using a bonus server interconnected to a plurality of gaming devices is described. A percentage of a wager played on each gaming device is accumulated into a bonus pool stored on the bonus server. The bonus pool is compared to a threshold value stored on the bonus server each time the bonus pool changes. One of the gaming devices is selected when the threshold value is substantially met. A bonus prize funded by the bonus pool is awarded to the selected gaming device.

22 Claims, 31 Drawing Sheets



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Fig. 1

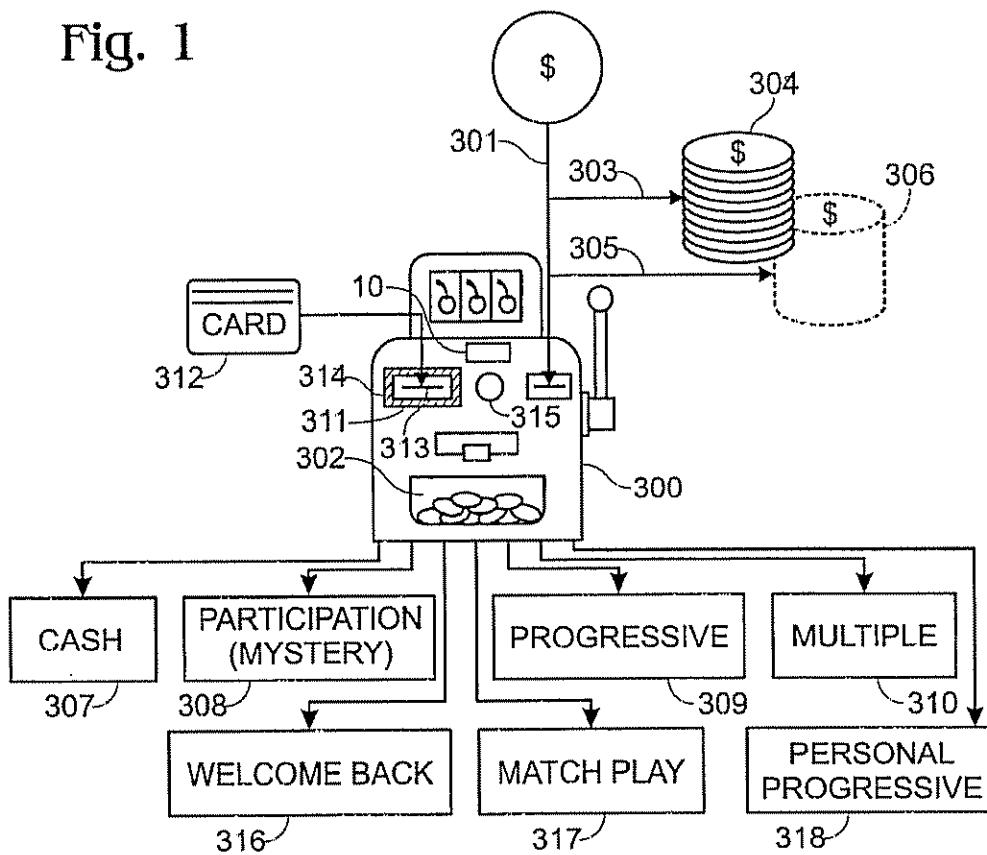
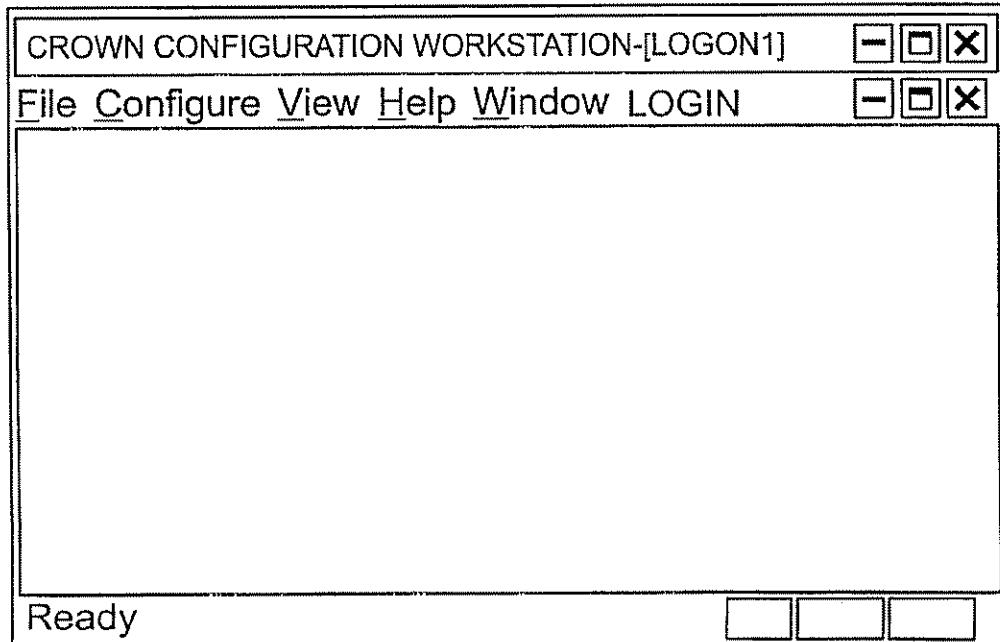


Fig. 2A



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Fig. 2B

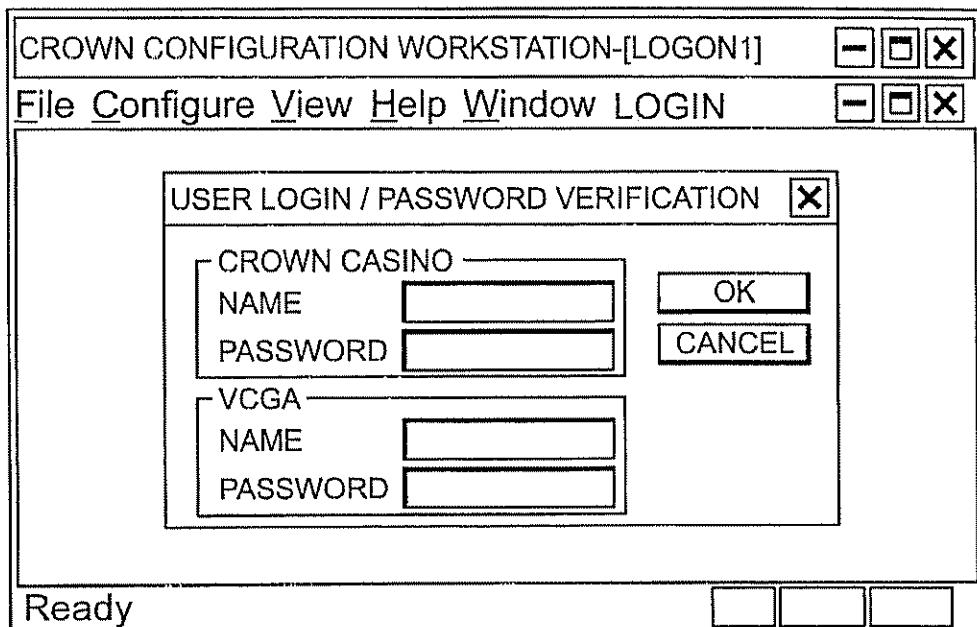
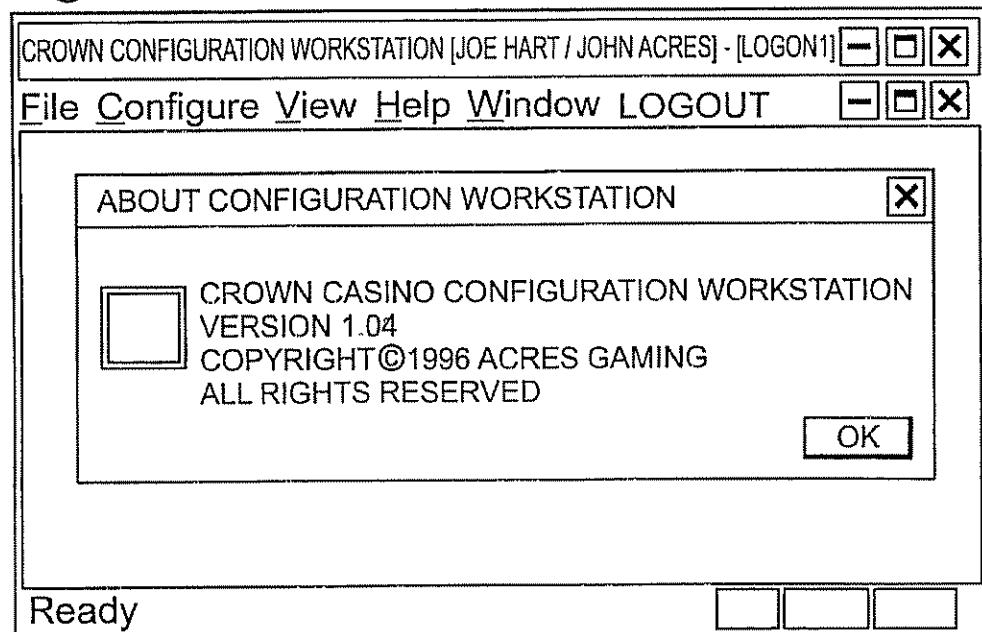


Fig. 2D

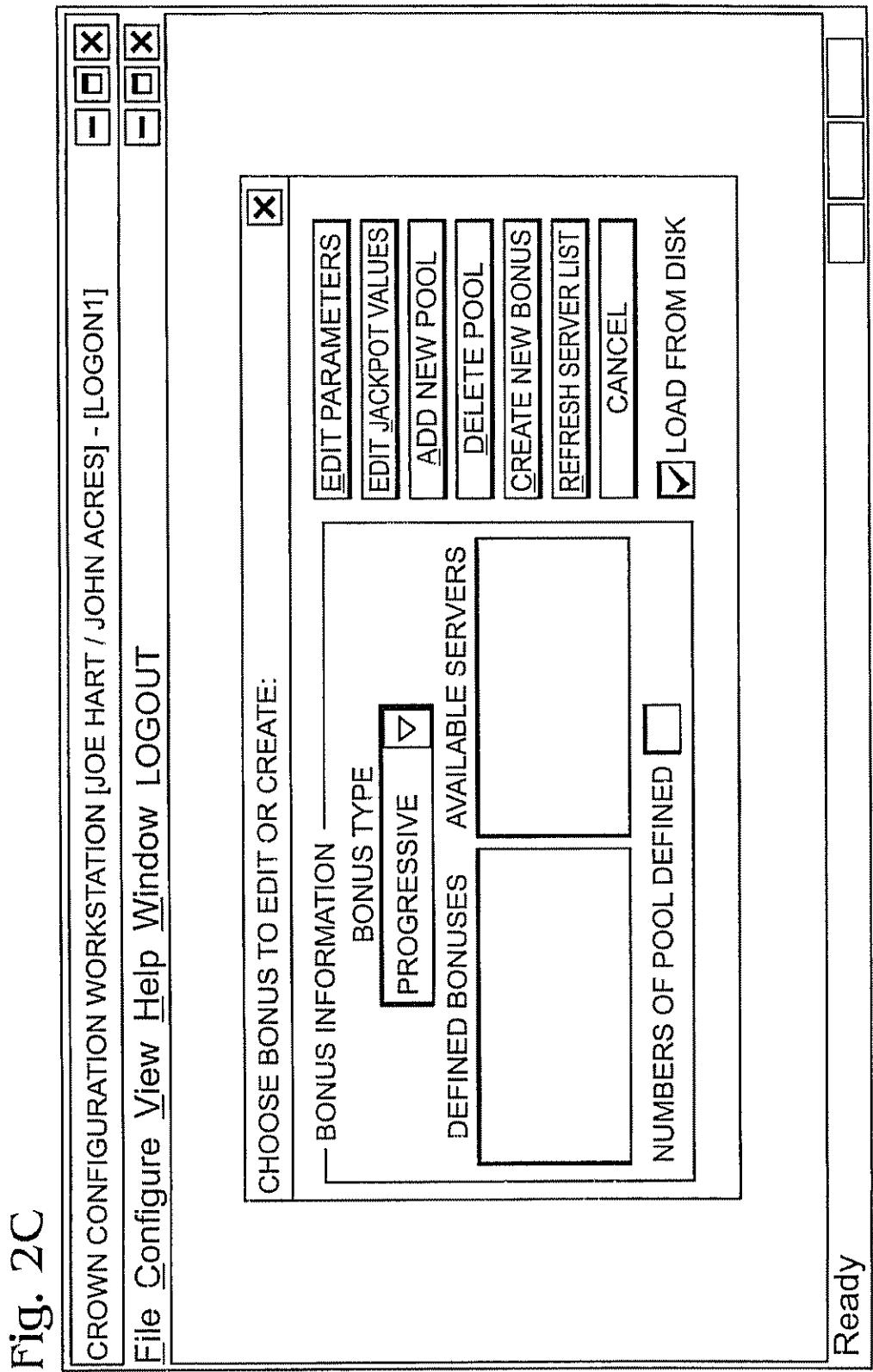


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Fig. 2E

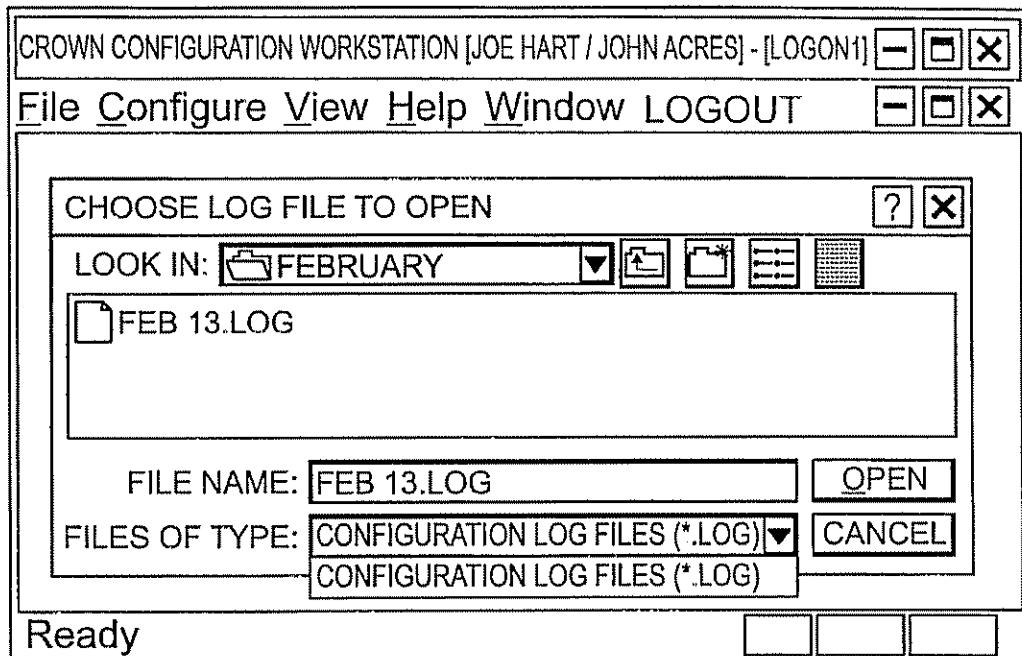
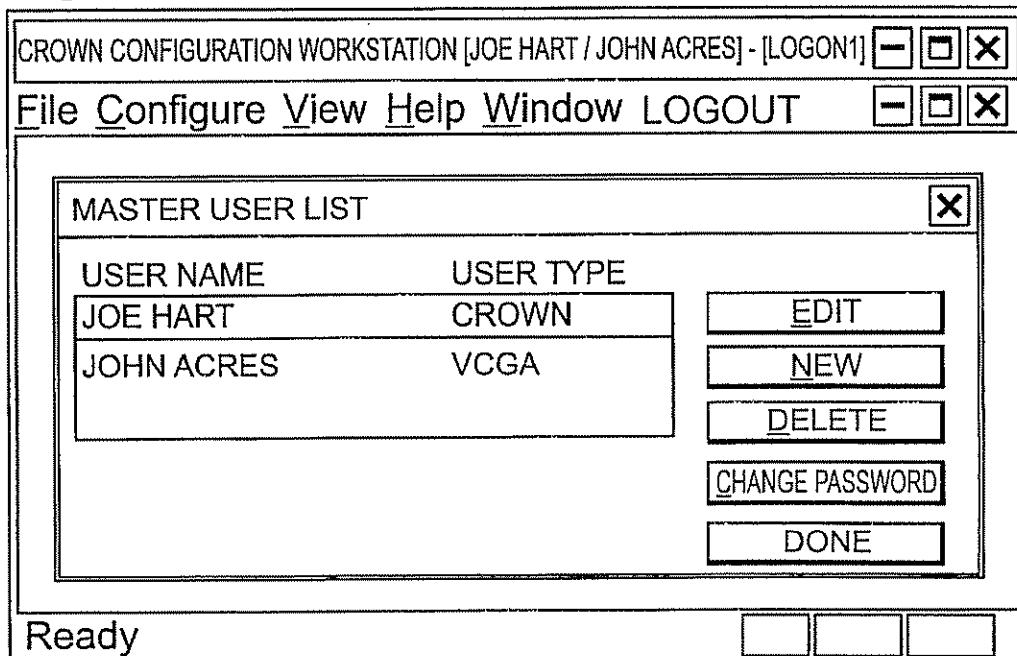


Fig. 2F



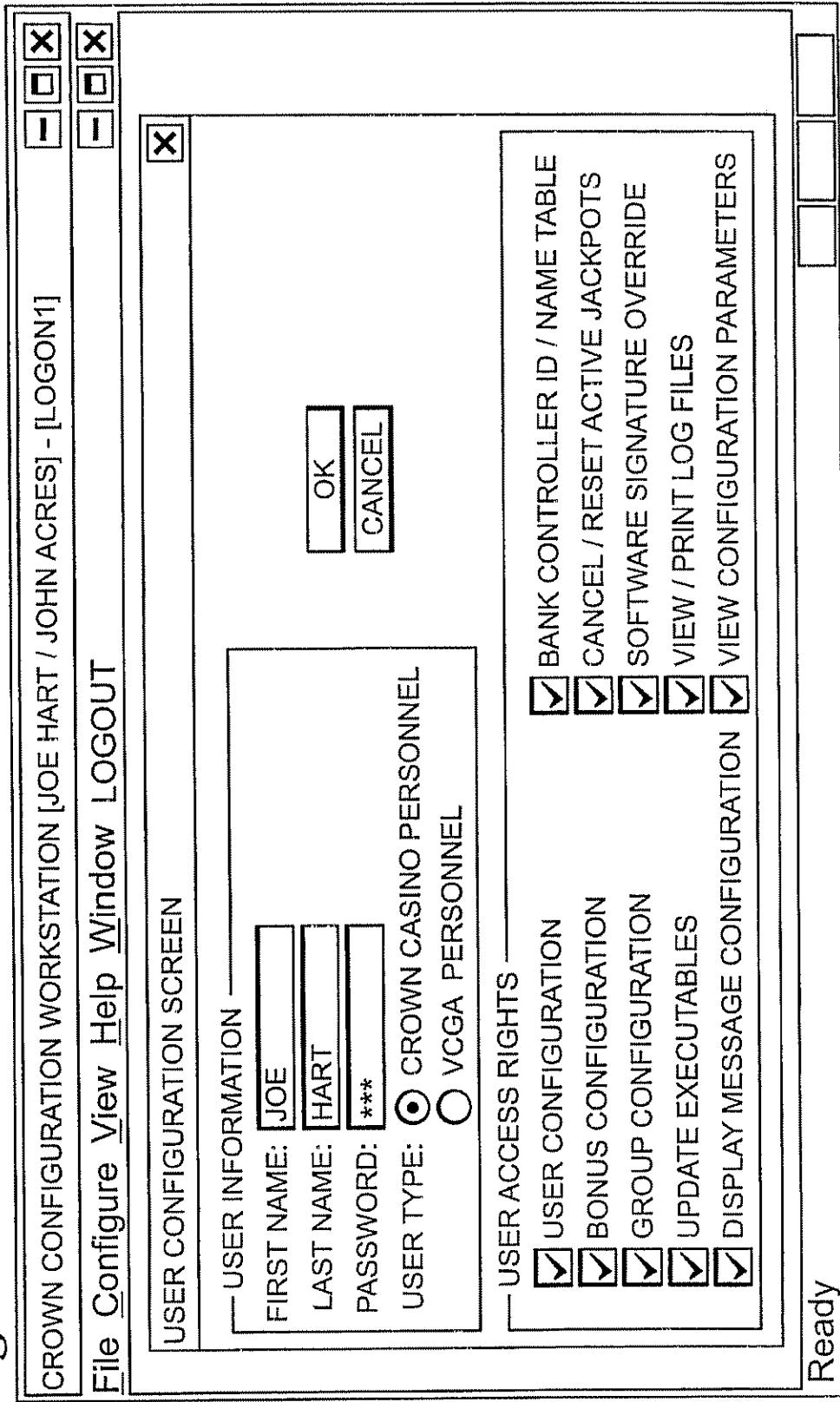
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Fig. 2G



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Fig. 2H

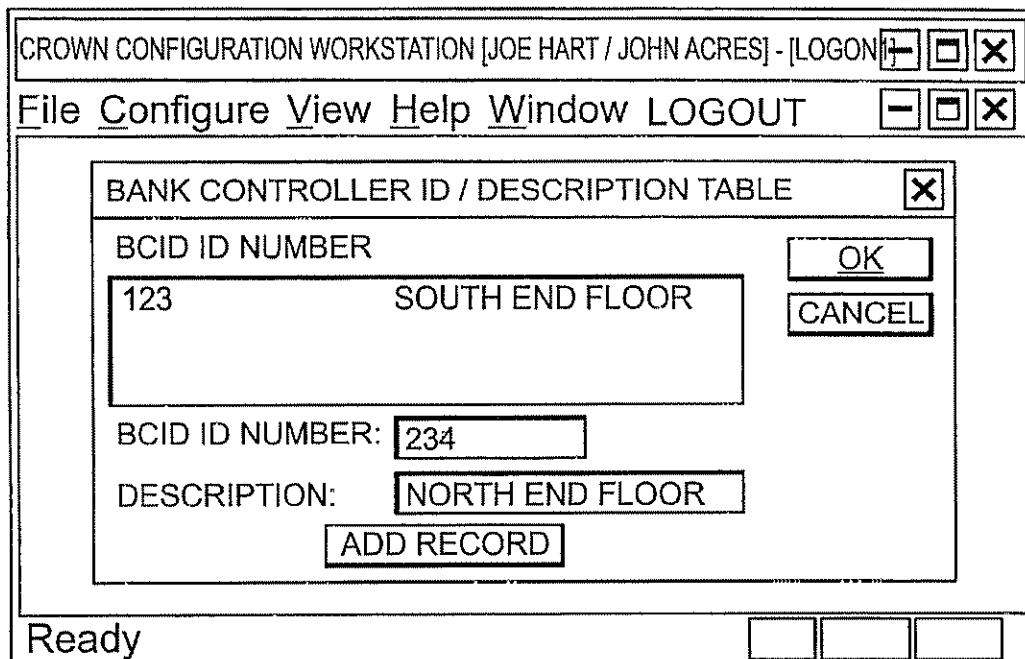
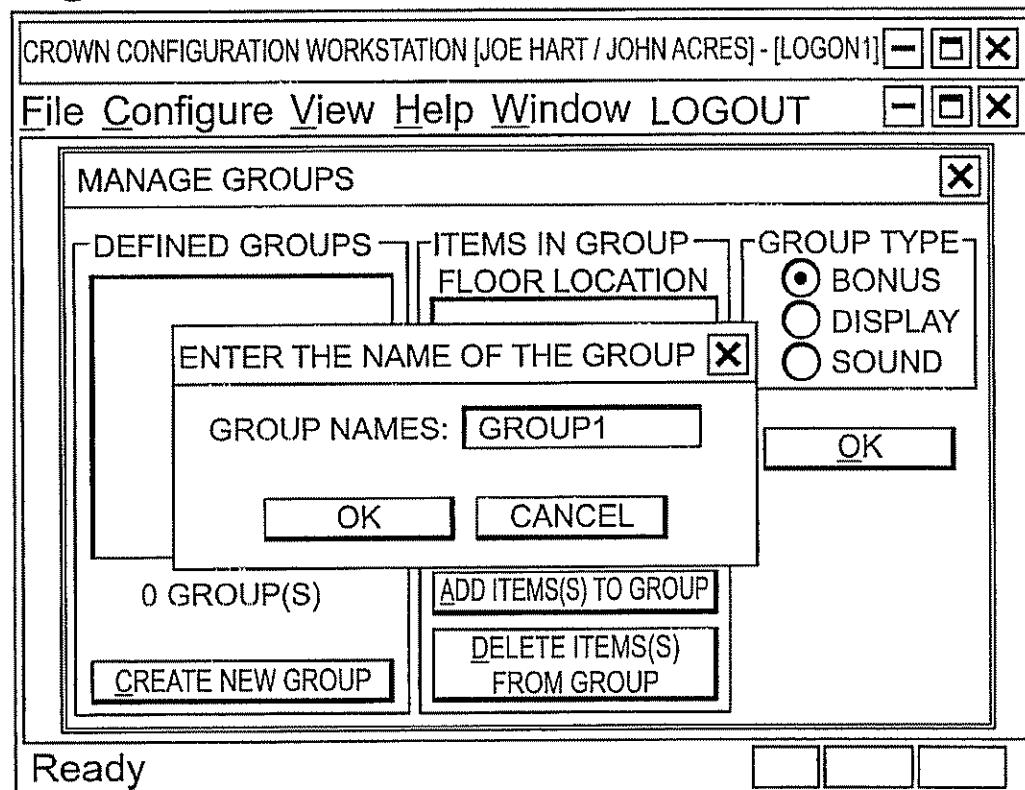


Fig. 2I



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Fig. 2J

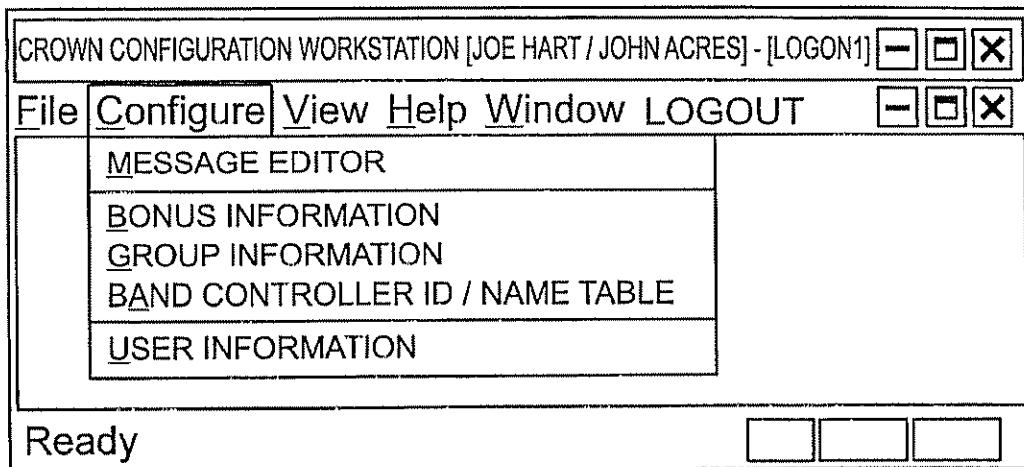


Fig. 2K



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Fig. 2L

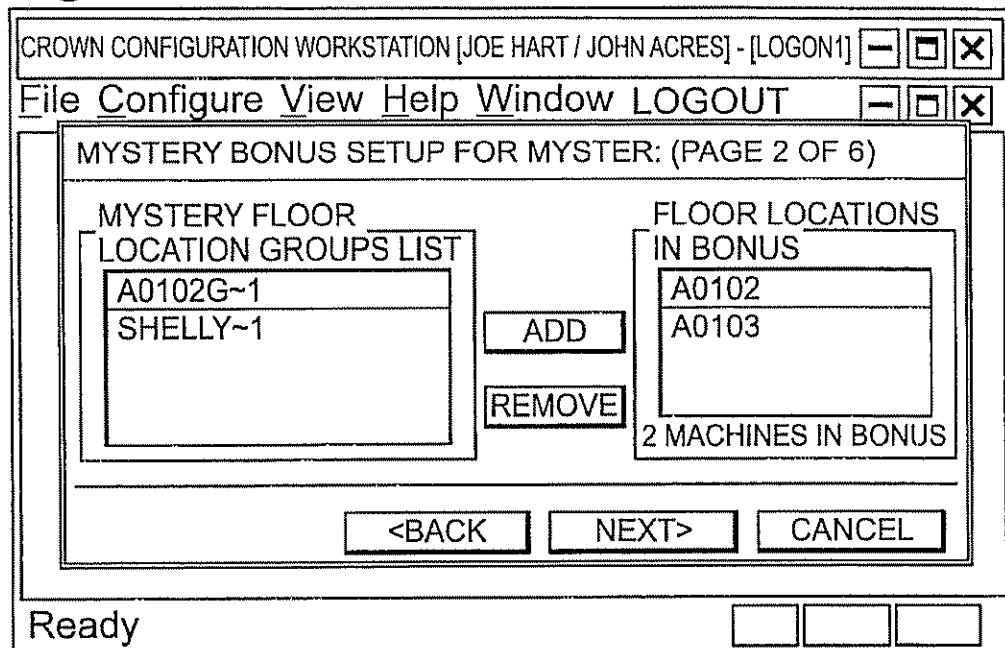
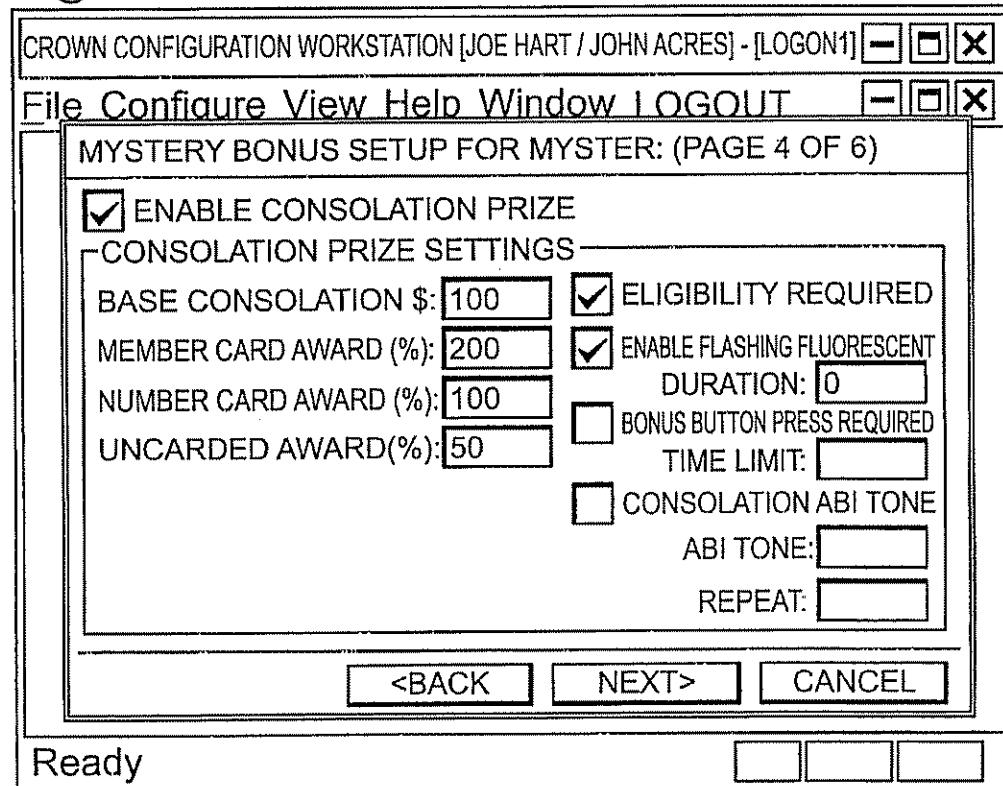


Fig. 2M

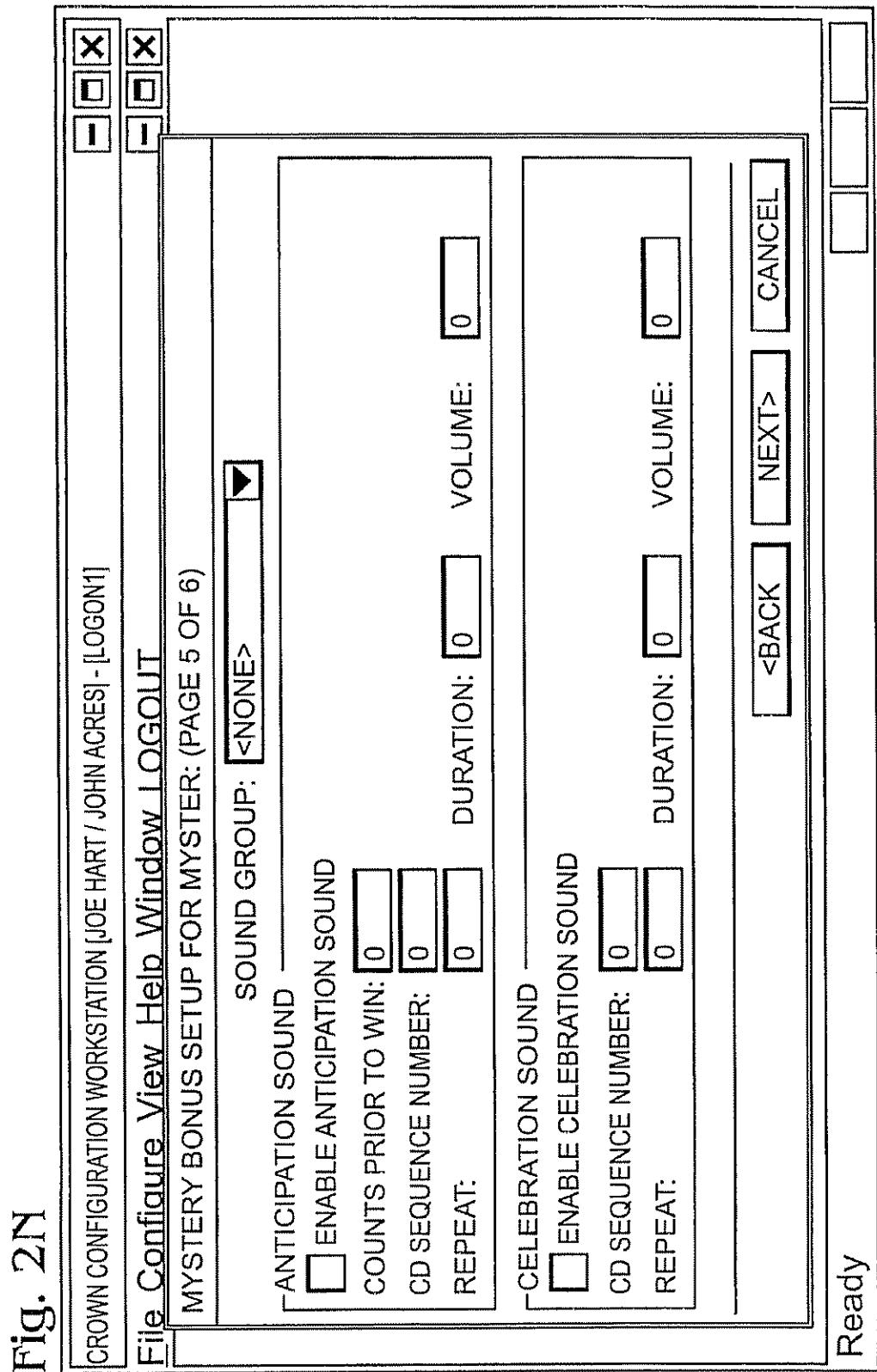


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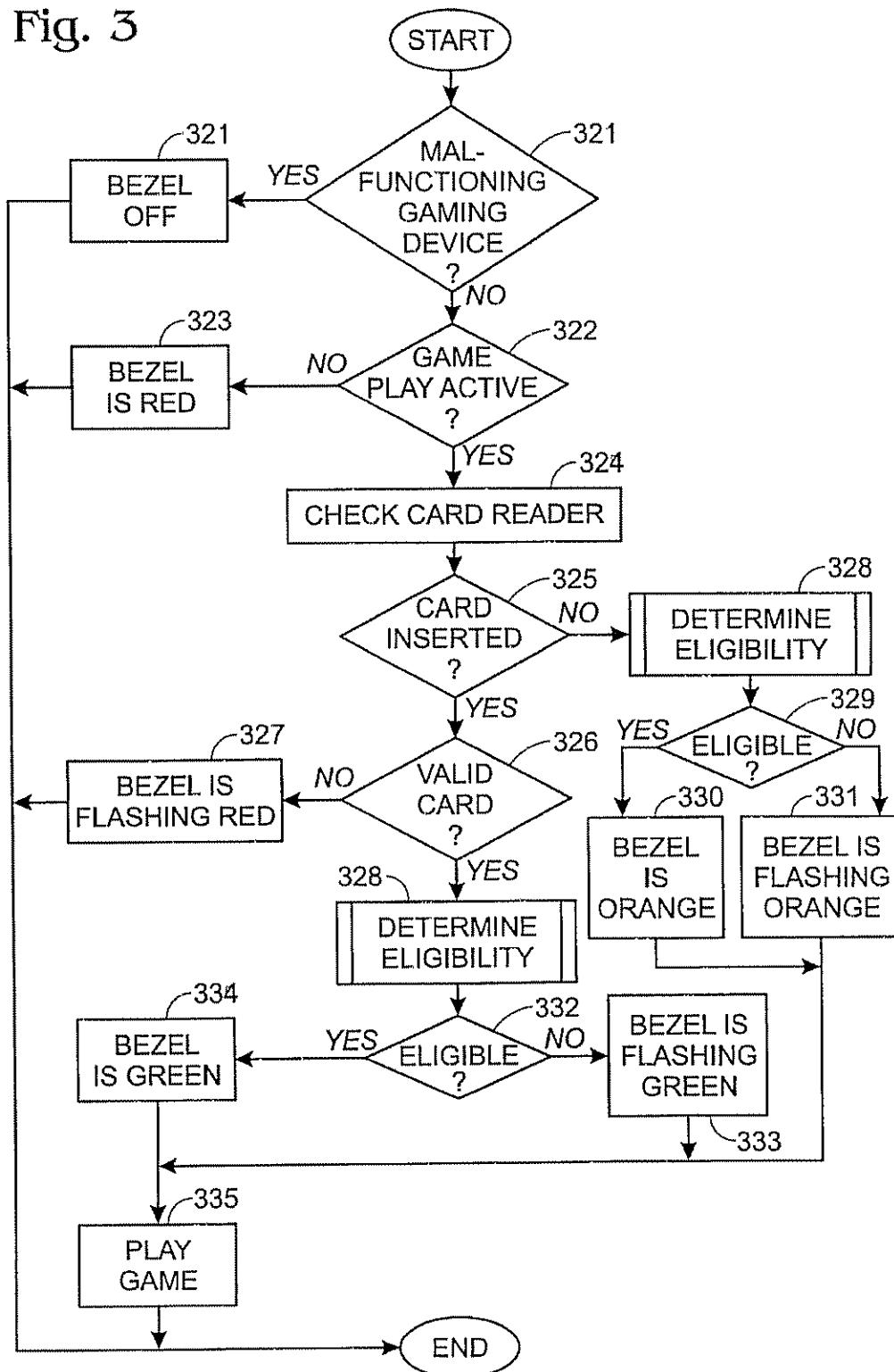
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Fig. 3



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Fig. 4

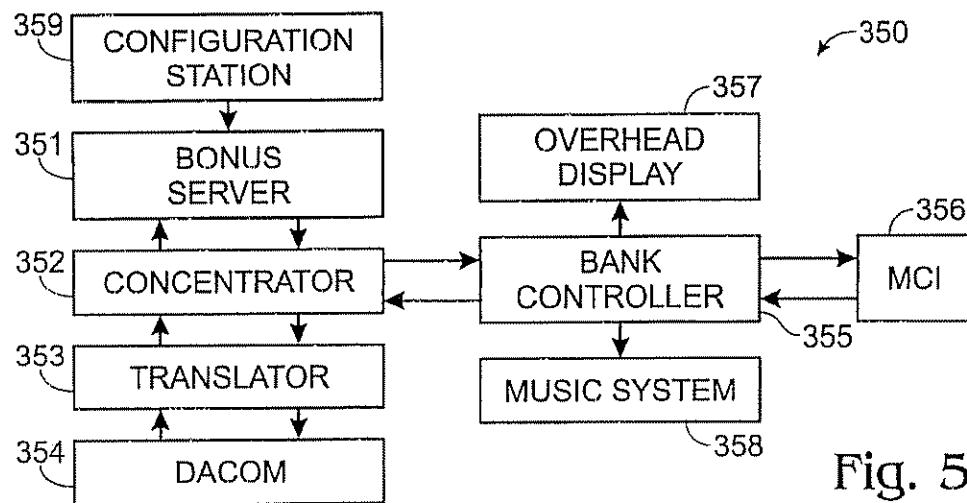
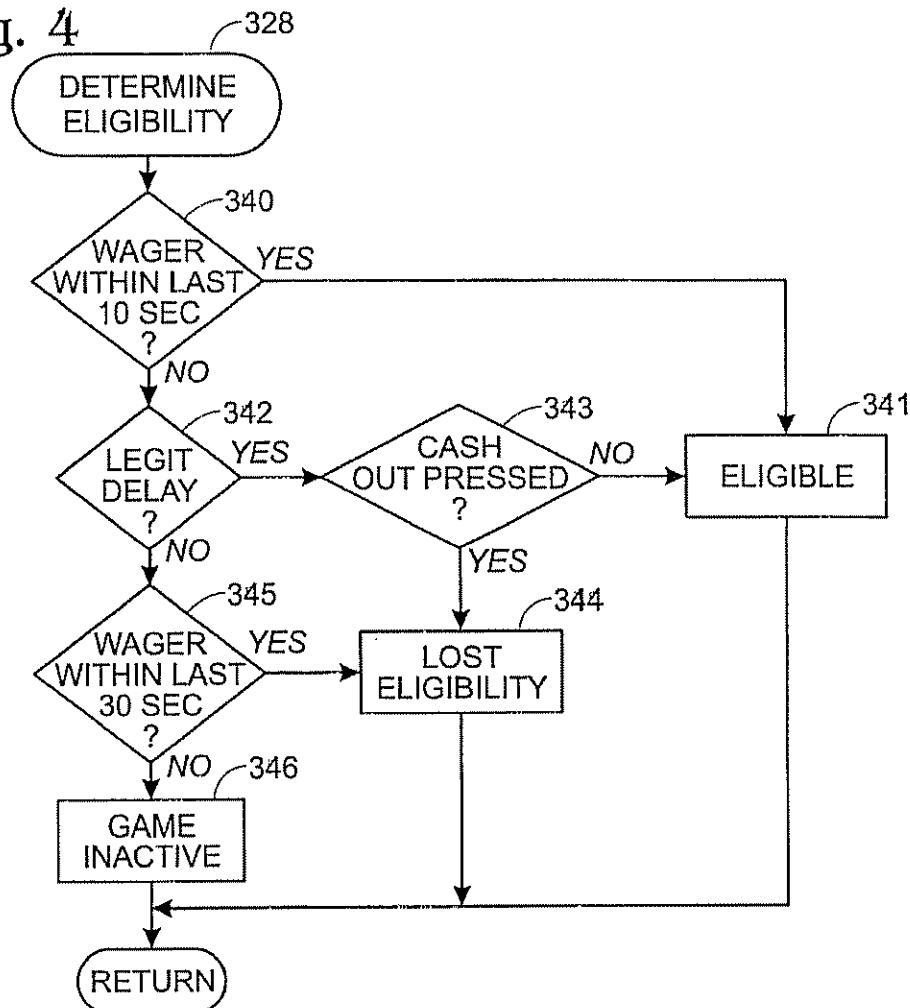


Fig. 5

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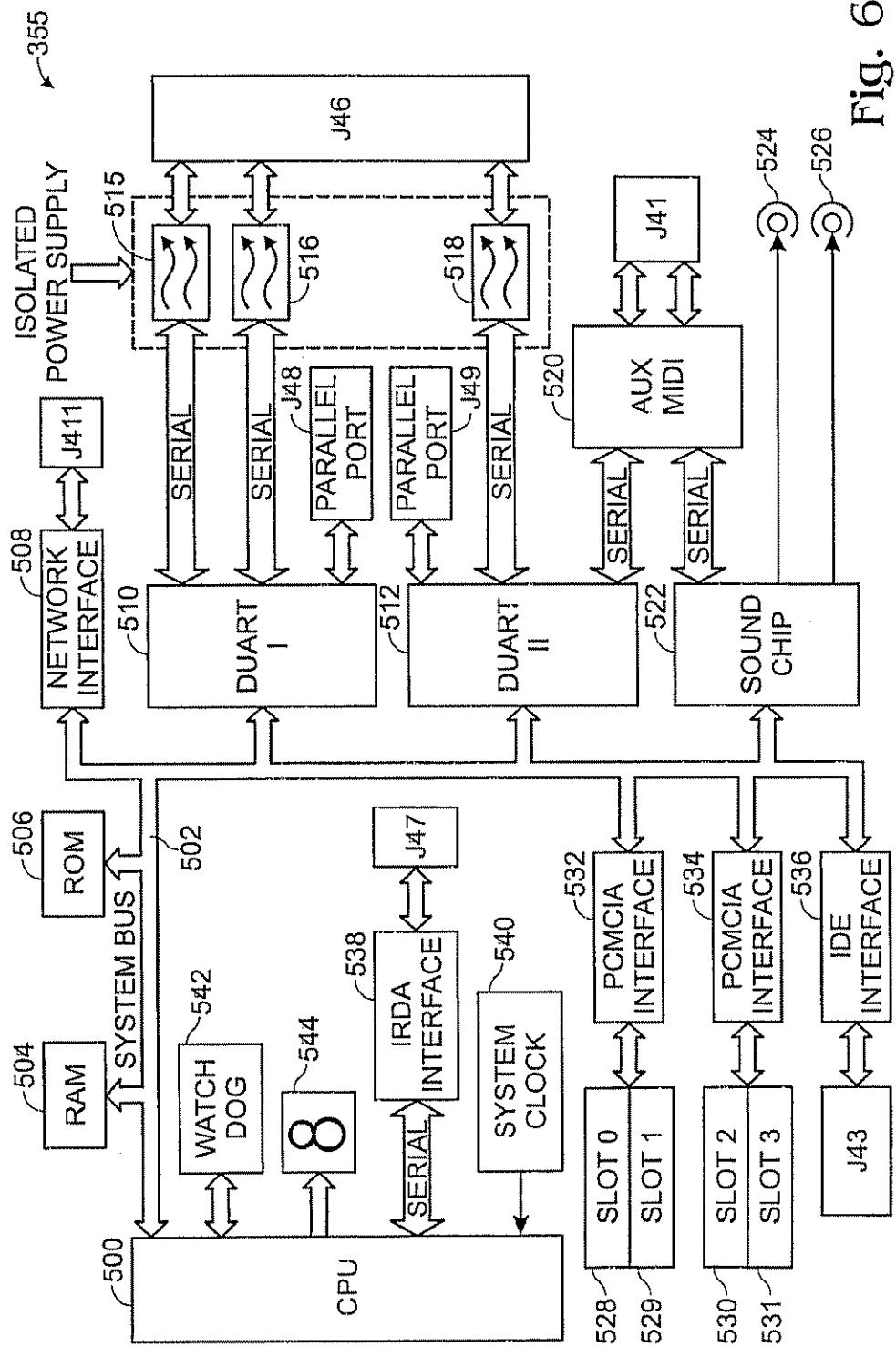


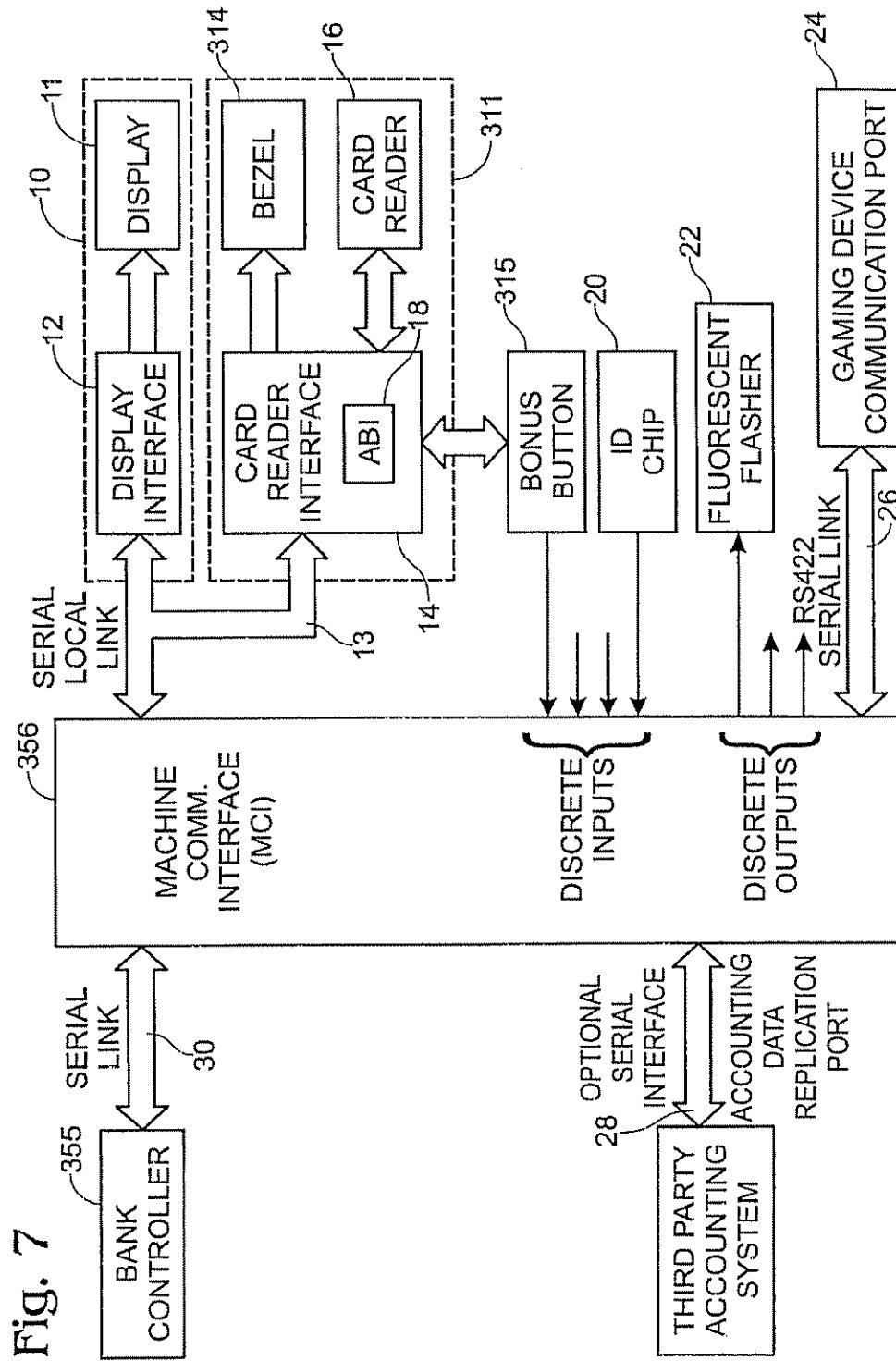
Fig. 6

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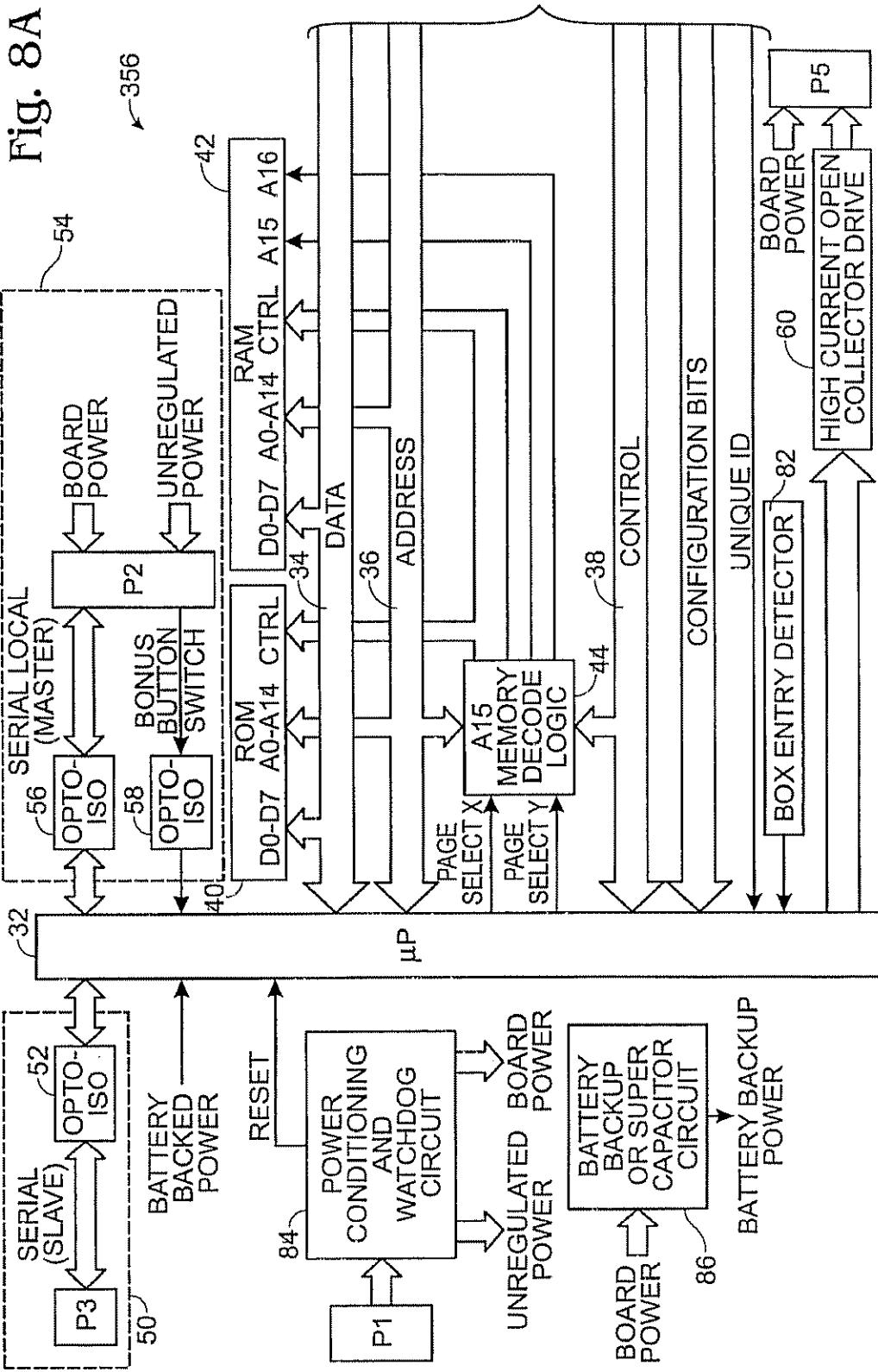


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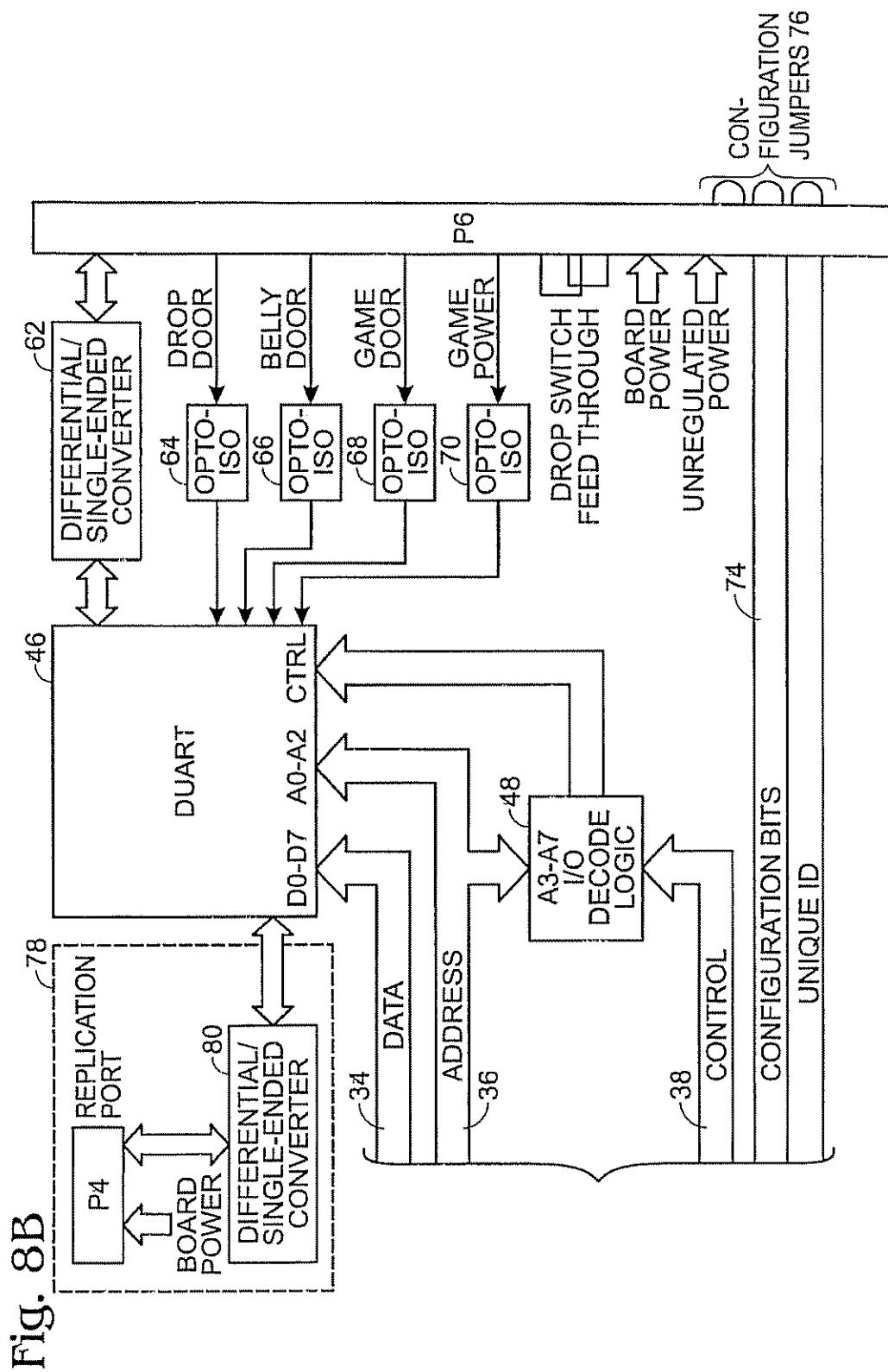


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Fig. 9A

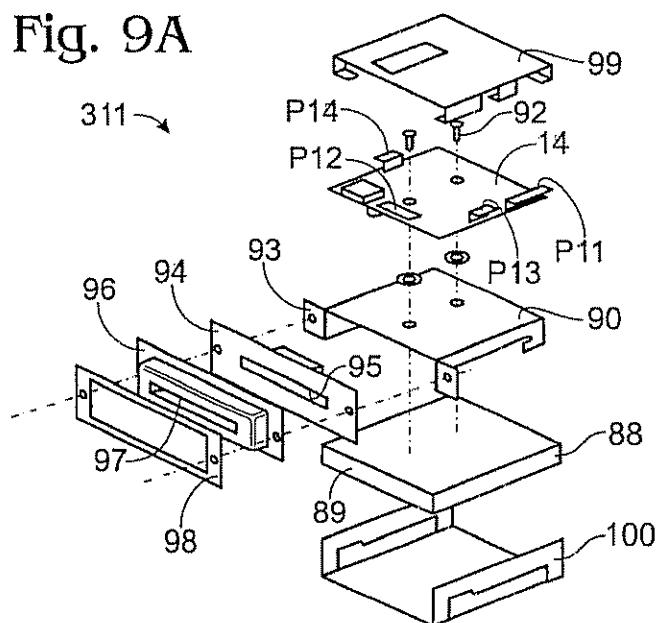


Fig. 9B

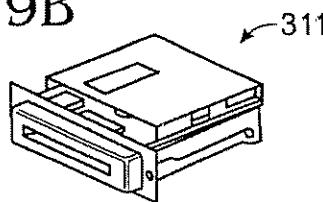


Fig. 9C

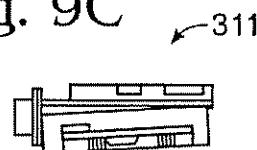
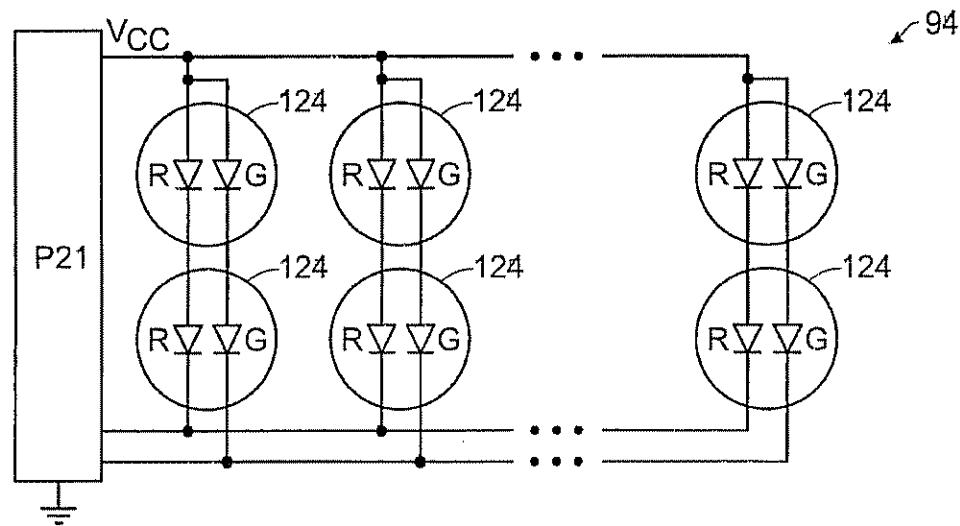


Fig. 11



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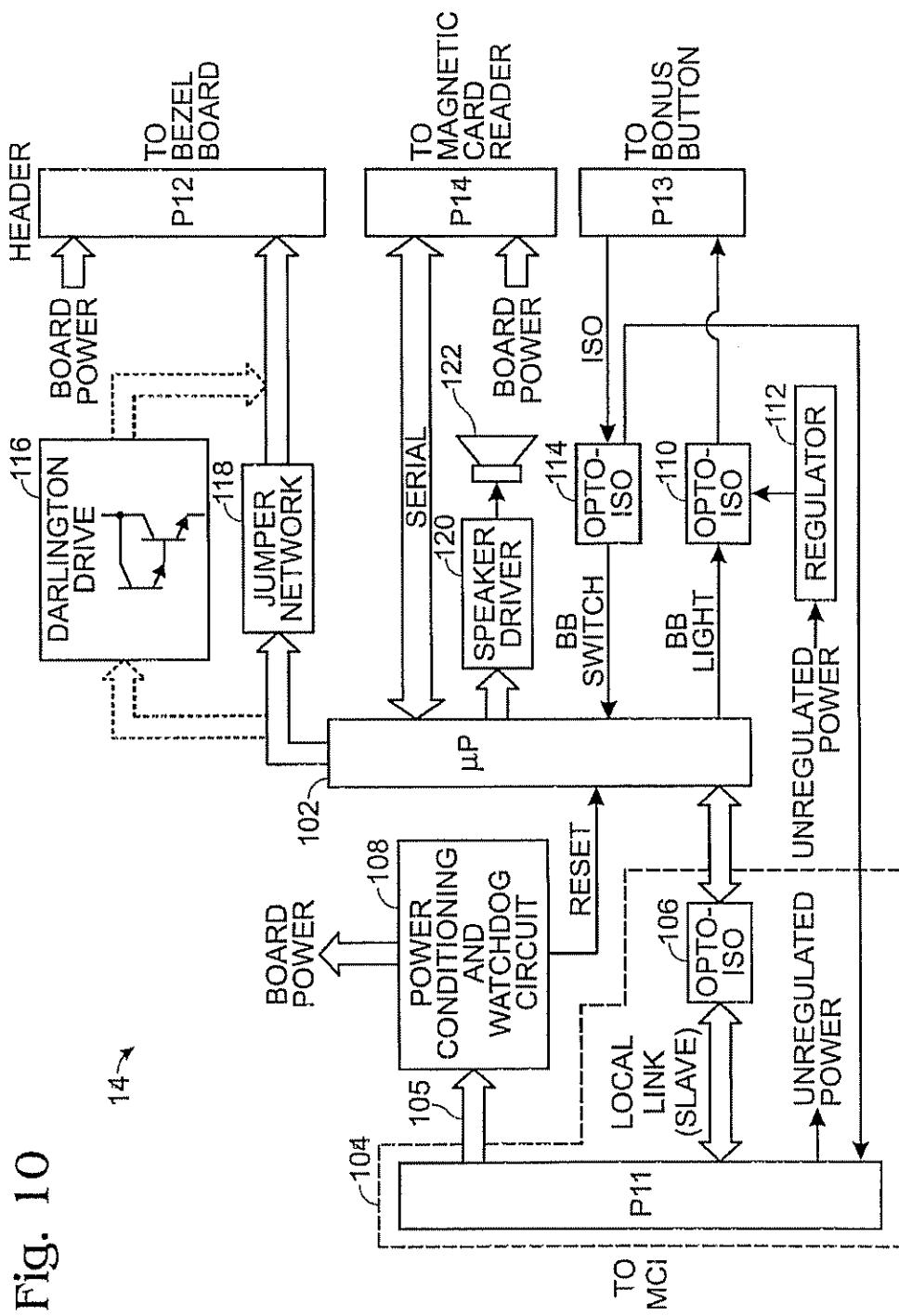


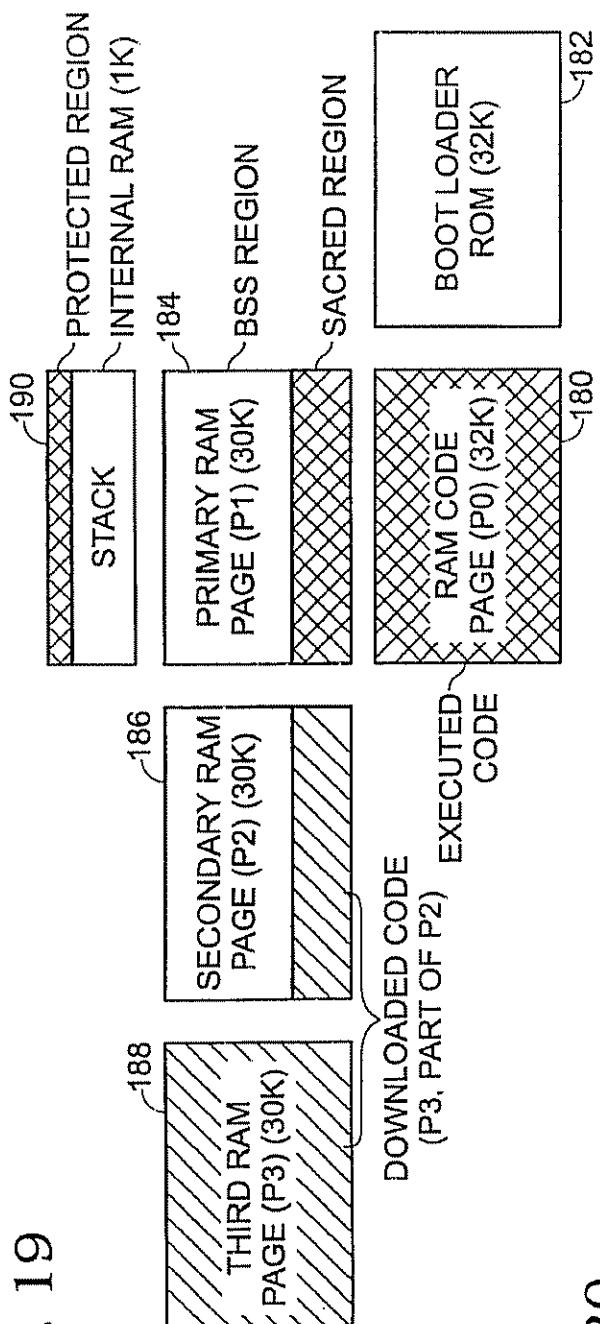
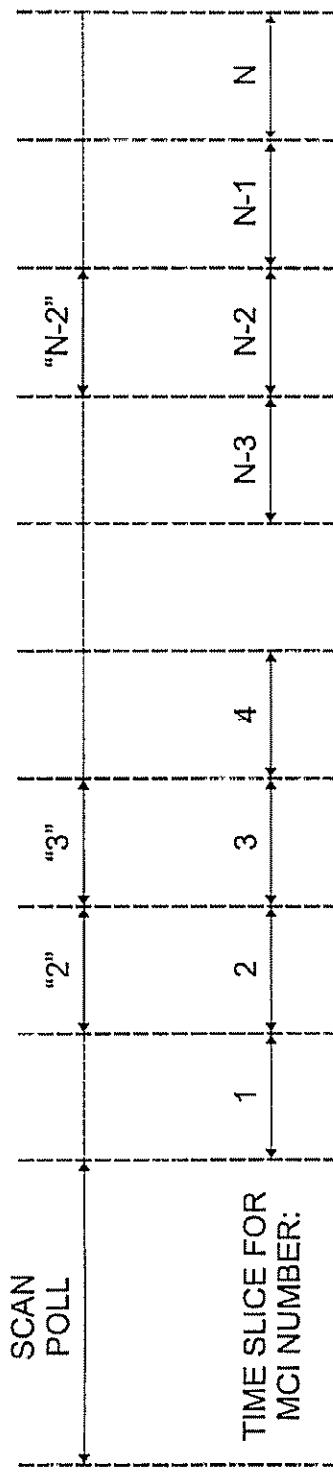
Fig. 10

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**Fig. 20**

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Fig. 21

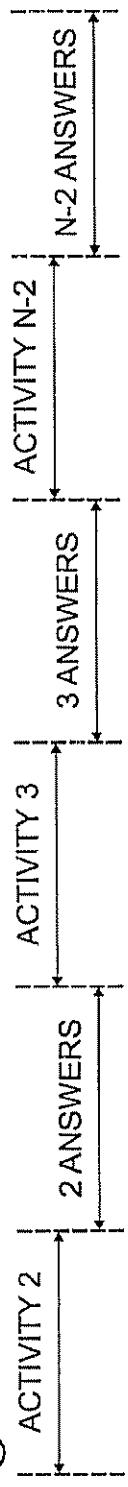
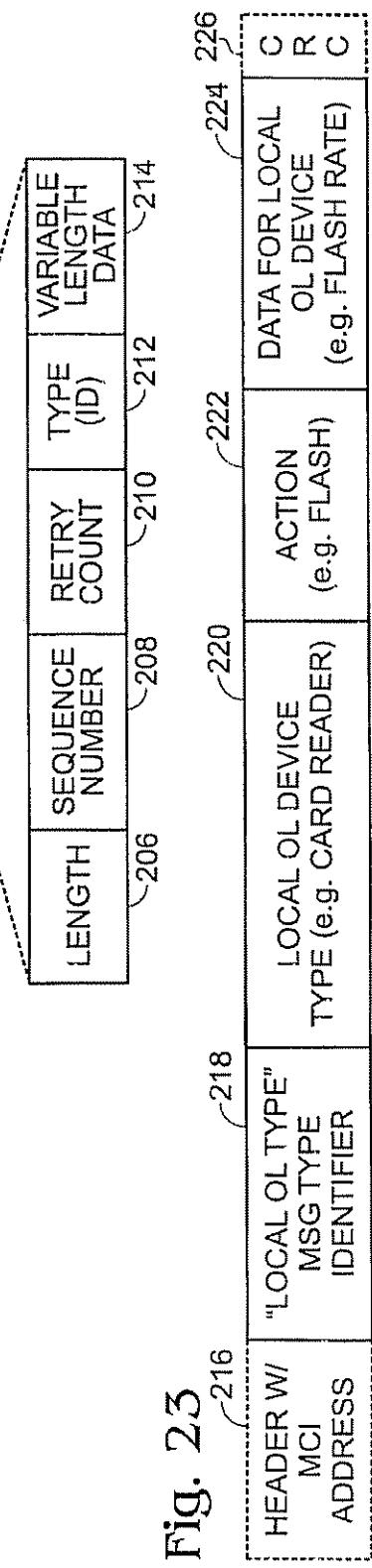
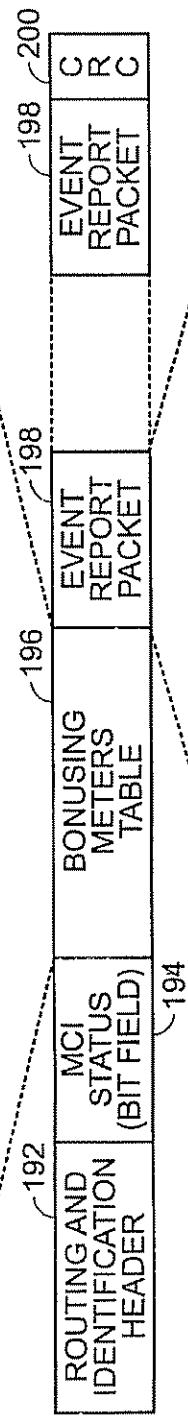


Fig. 22

METER MAP	METER #1 VALUE	METER #2 VALUE	METER #N VALUE
202	204	204	204

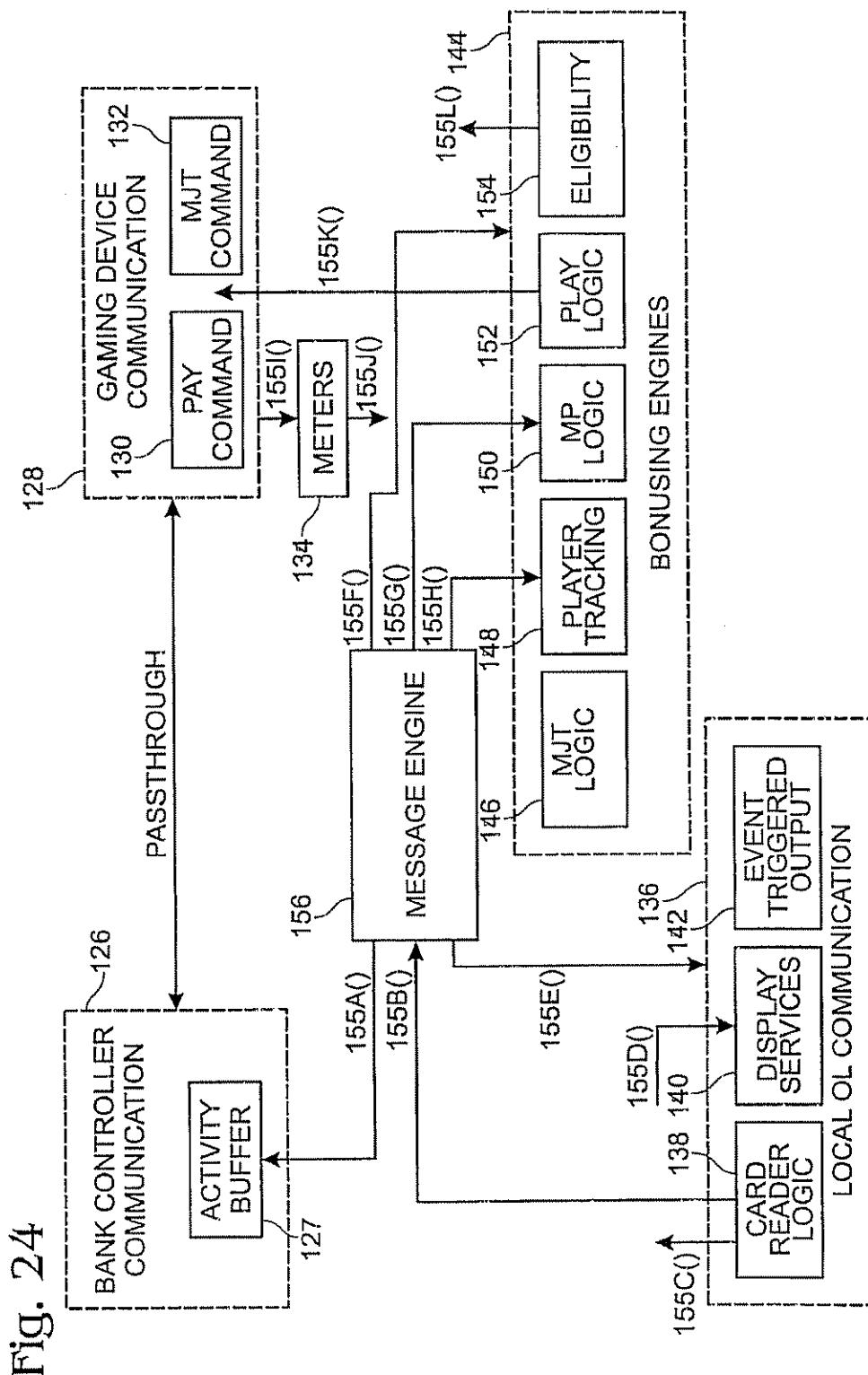


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Fig. 25

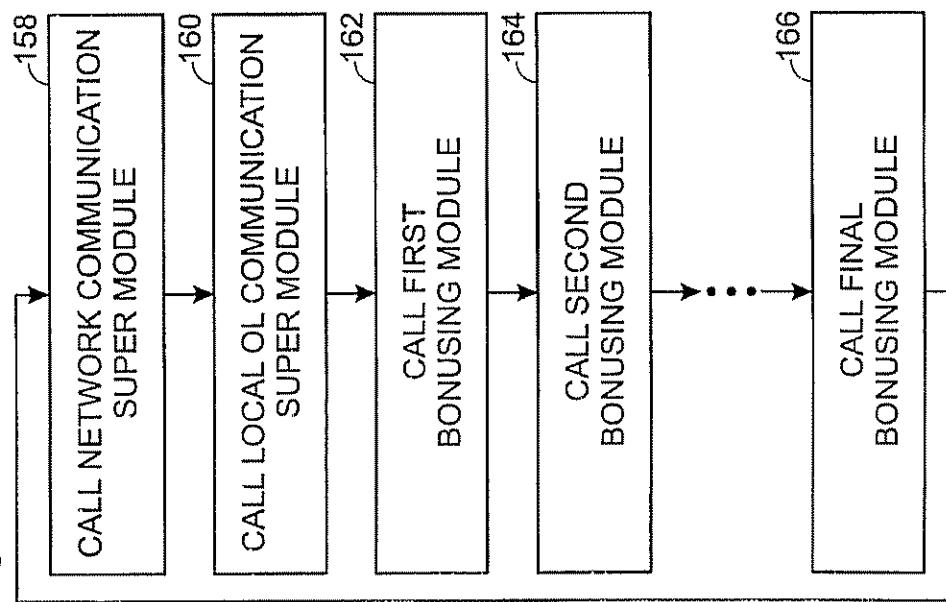
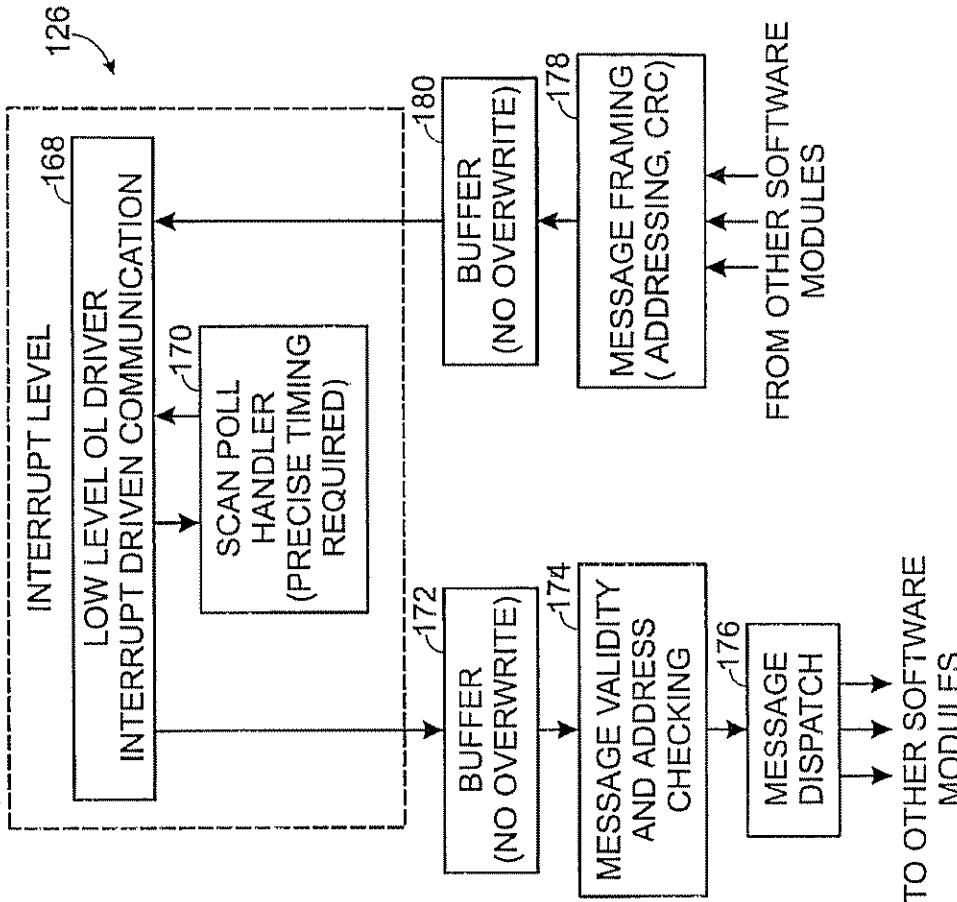


Fig. 26



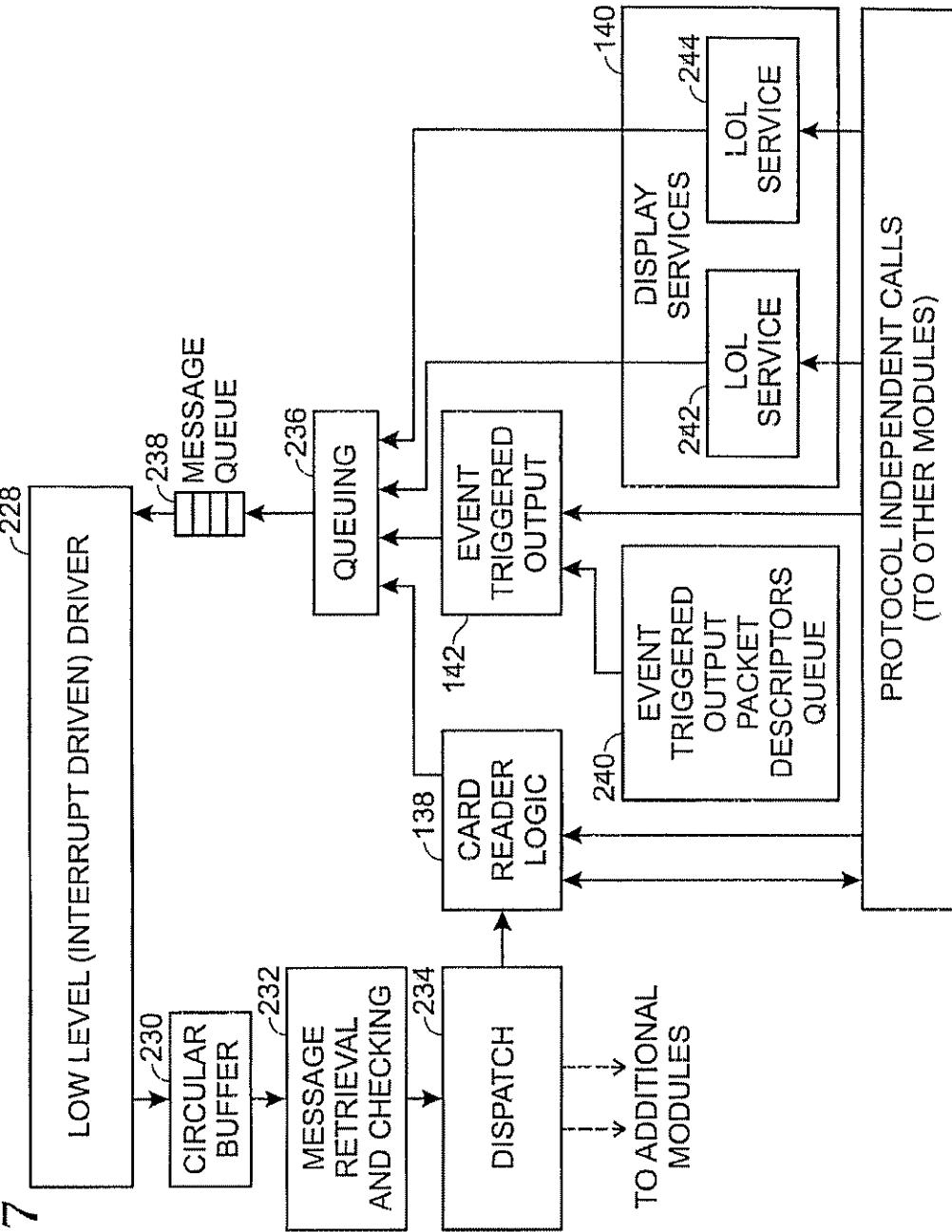
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Fig. 27



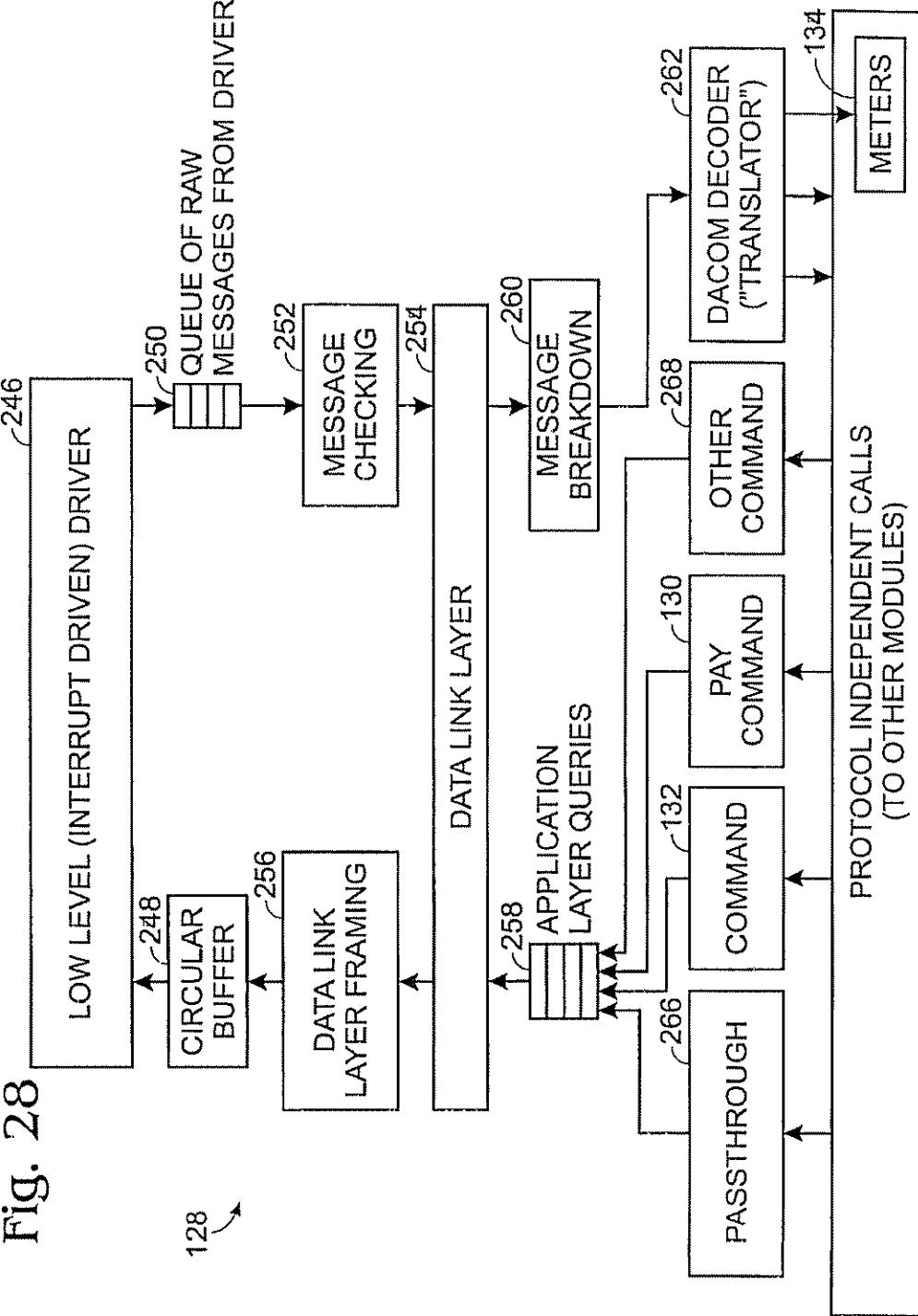
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Fig. 28



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Fig. 31

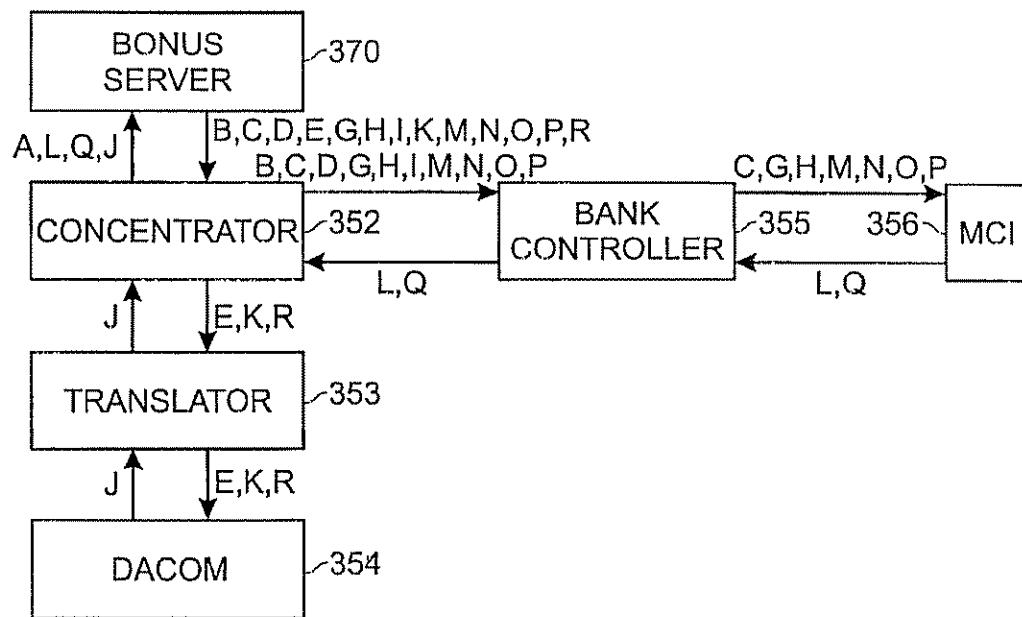
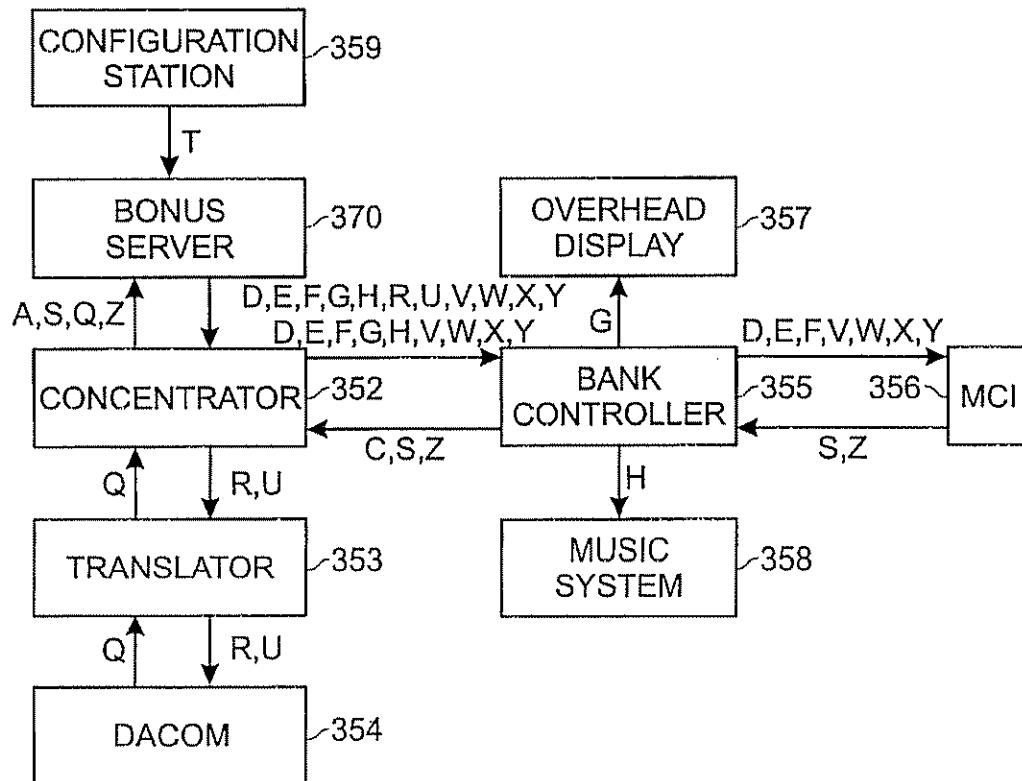


Fig. 32



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Fig. 33

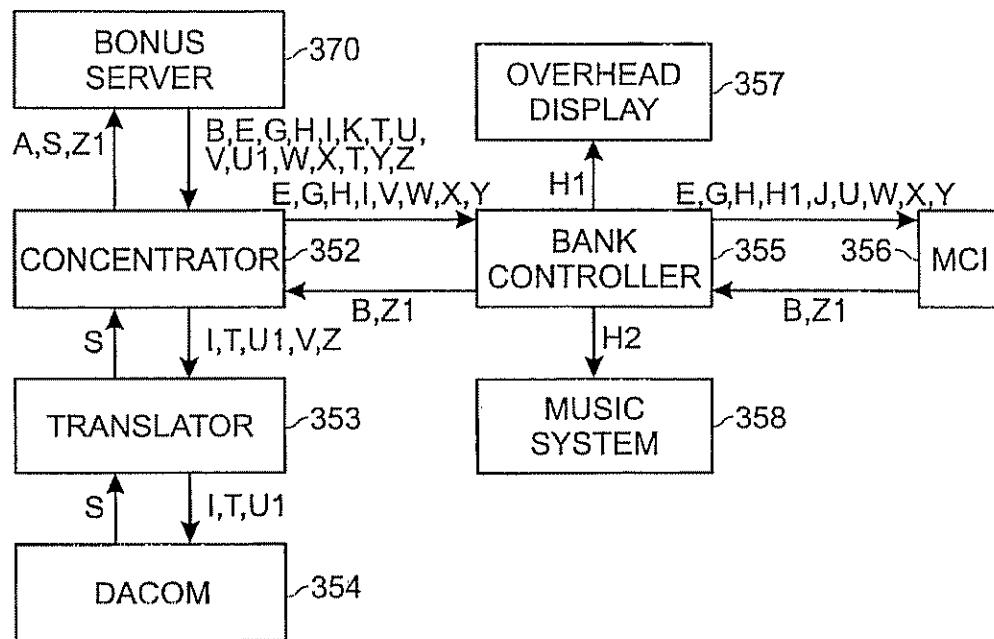
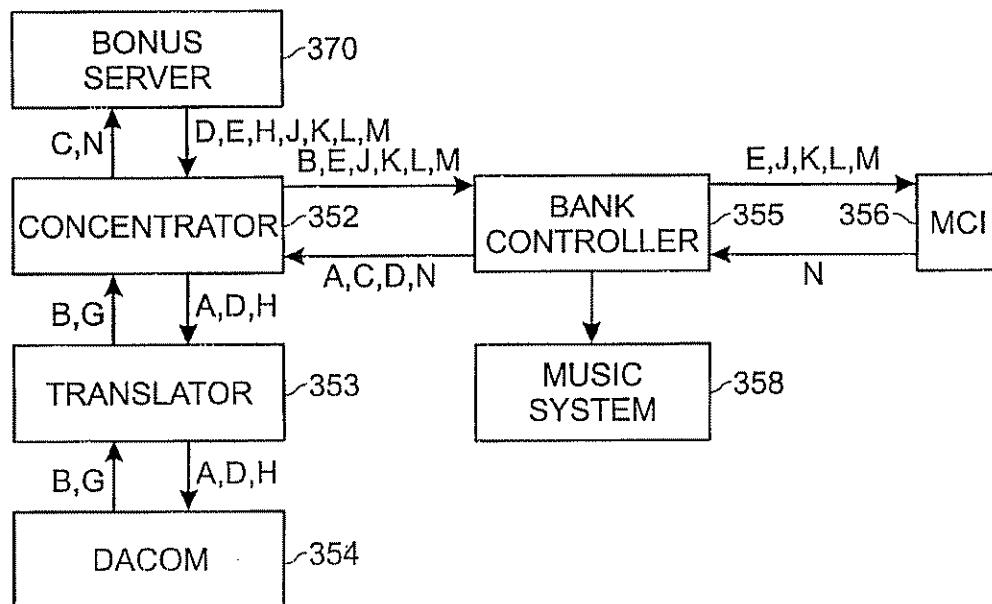


Fig. 34



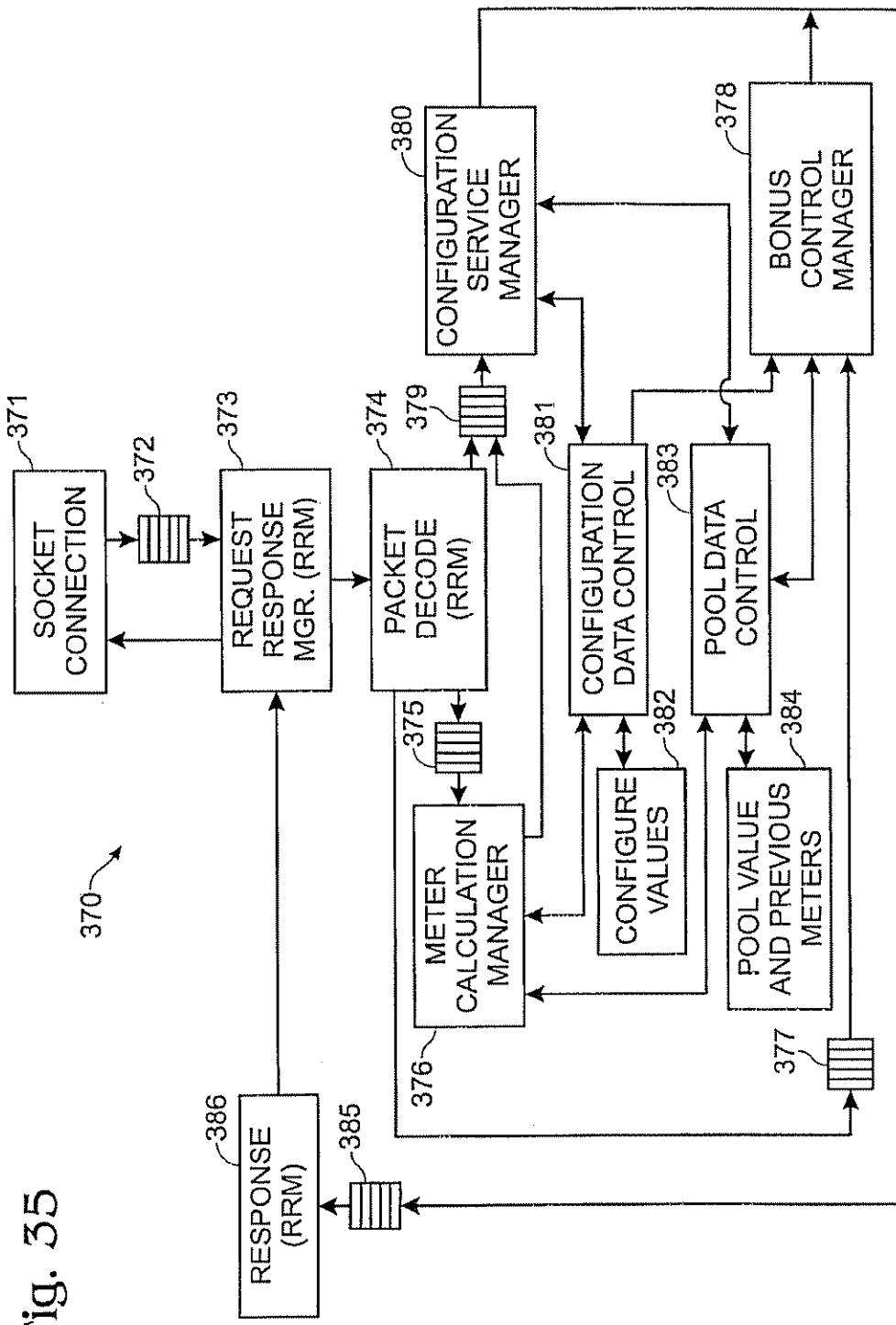
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Fig. 35

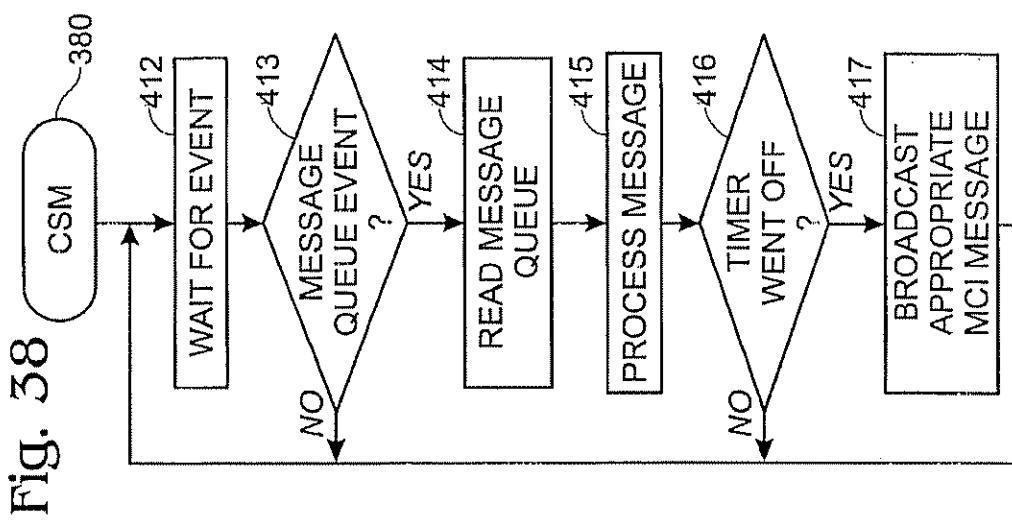
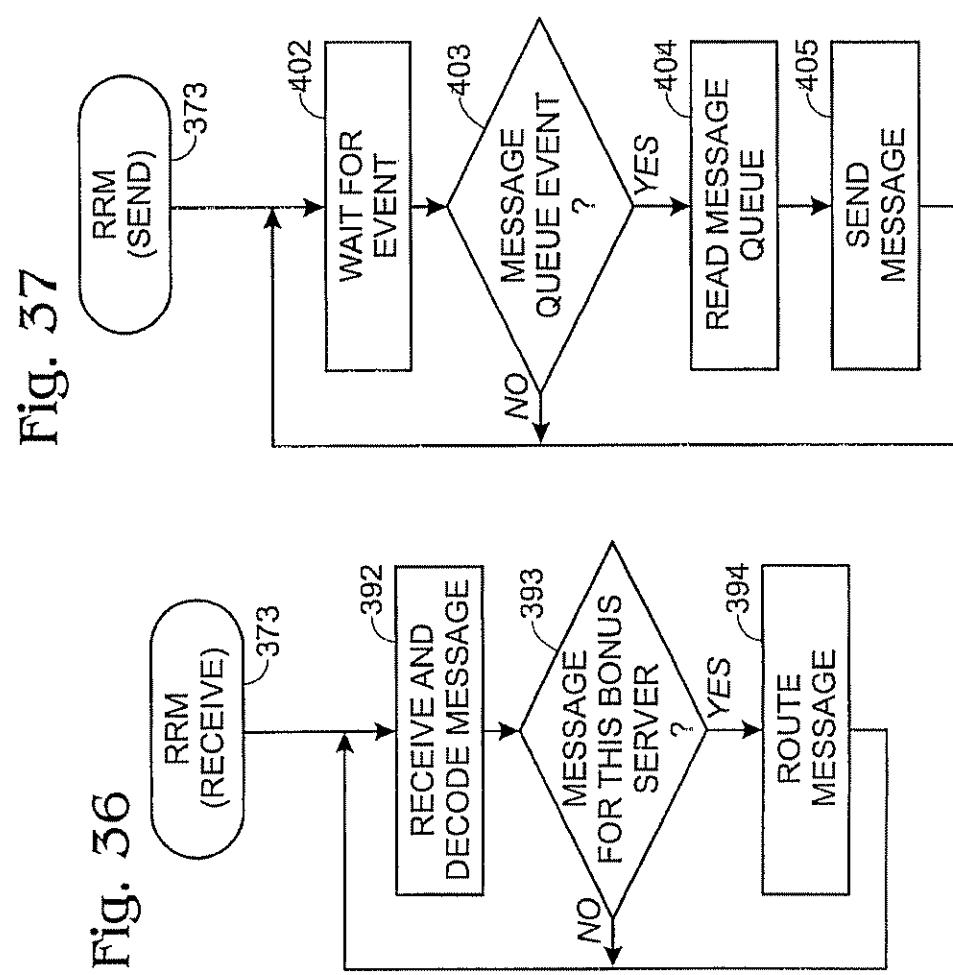


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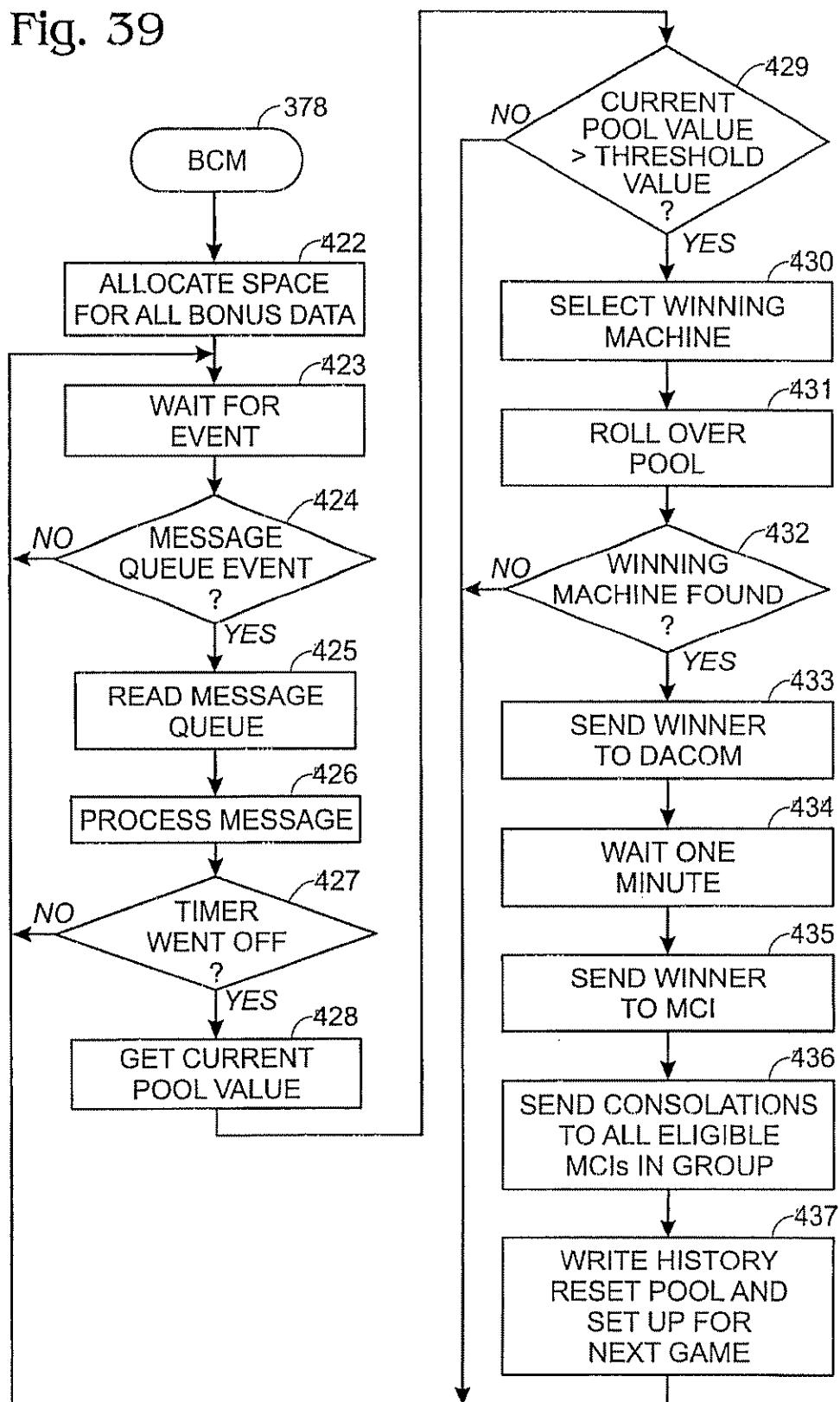
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Fig. 39



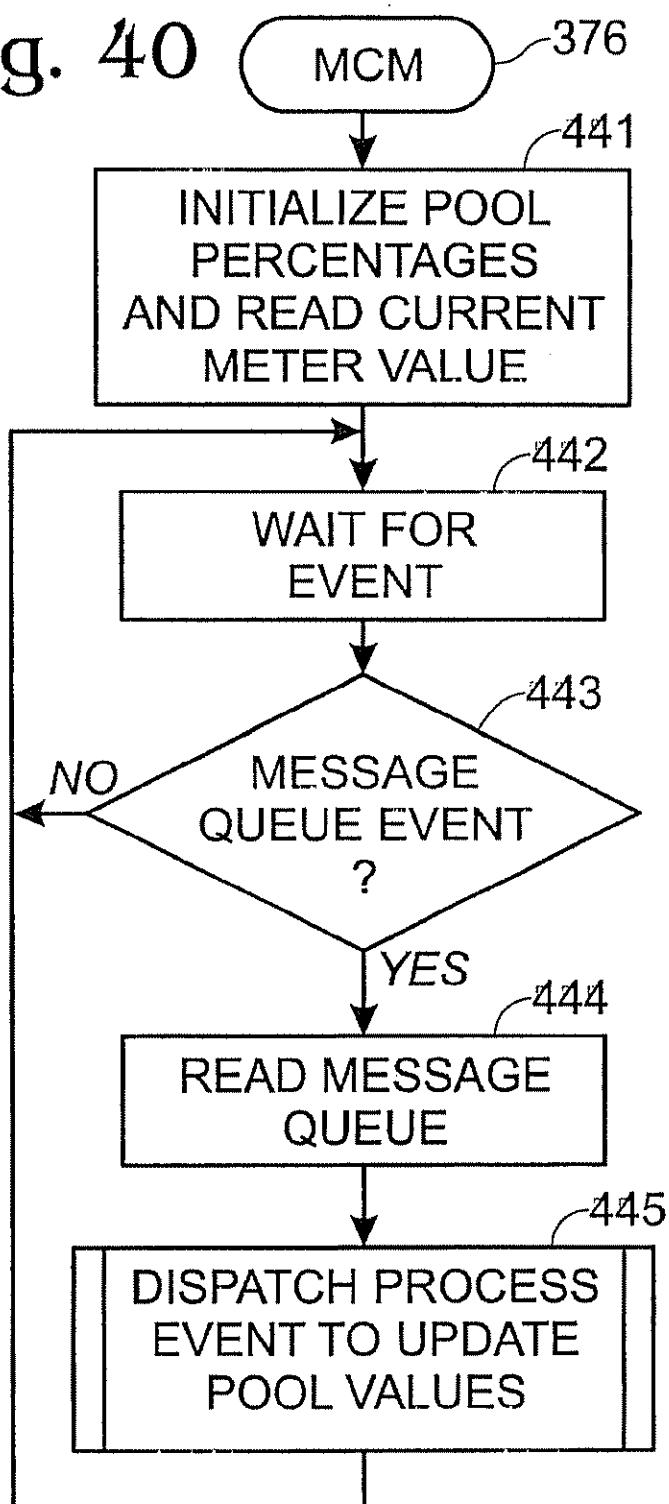
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Fig. 40



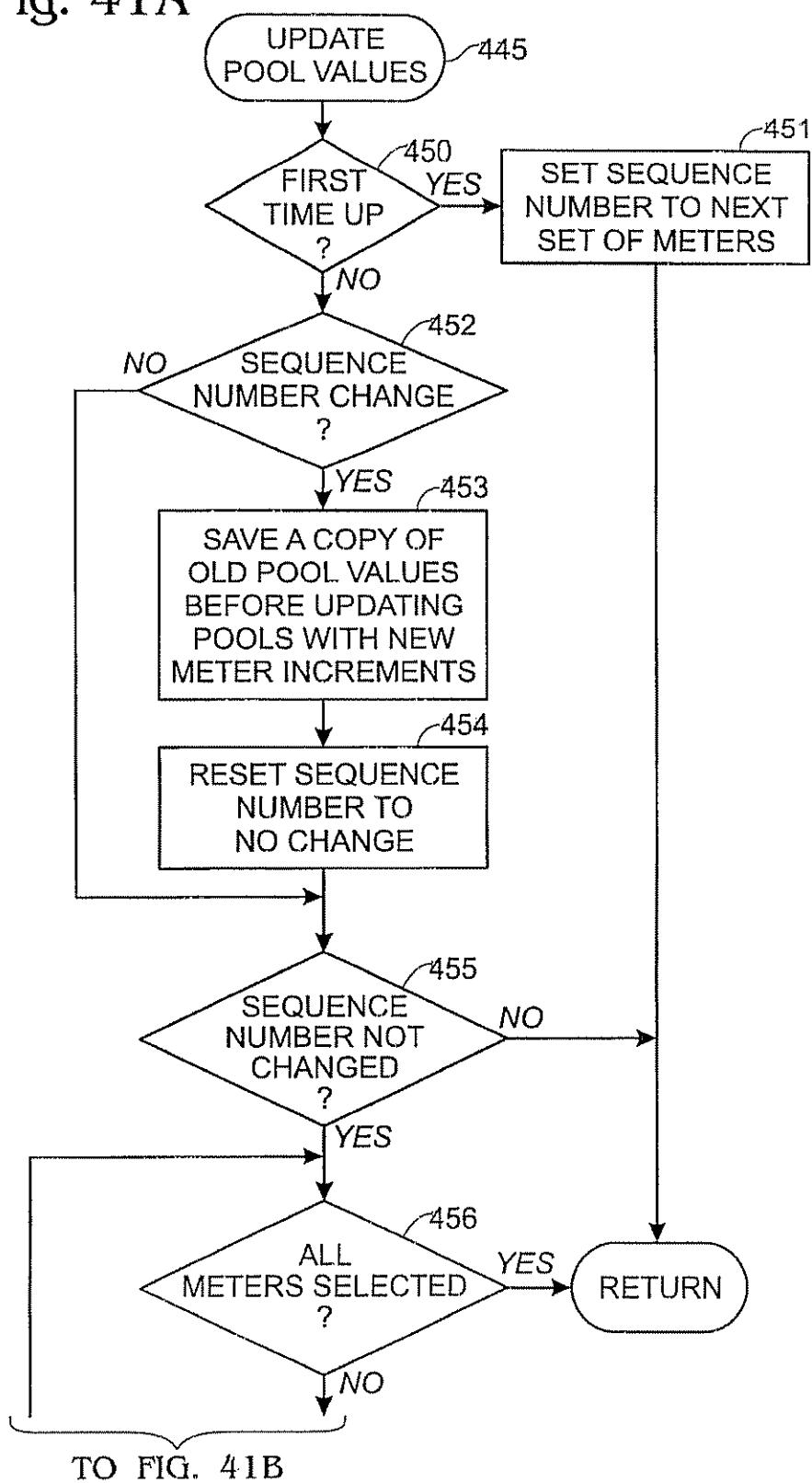
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Fig. 41A



TO FIG. 41B

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Fig. 41B

